

usually be recognized without reference to the legend.

Long lists of useful references, including the full titles of the articles, are given after every chapter.

A. S. HILL

**Ocular Pathology. A Text and Atlas.** By Myron Yanoff and Ben S. Fine. (Pp. xiv + 762; illustrated; \$60.00.) Hagerstown, Maryland: Harper and Row. 1975.

Good textbooks on ocular pathology are very rare: indeed, there still exists a need for a major scholarly authoritative work, with an accurate historical bibliography, covering all aspects of this speciality; in short, a modern counterpart to the four volumes of Parsons' *Pathology of the Eye* (1904). Until this is forthcoming—and it would seem with the great advances in this field and in medical science in general that only multiple authorship could provide it—the subject is well served by the valuable Atlas and Textbook by Hogan and Zimmerman and now by this most impressive and beautifully produced volume by two well-known ocular pathologists. It is written in the form of tabulated notes which, although not attractive to read as a book, is of particular value for quick reference and for teaching. It is remarkable how ably the authors have condensed the most up-to-date knowledge of so many aspects of ocular pathology, including the complications of immunobiology, into such succinct and accurate summaries, all lavishly illustrated by excellent examples of the conditions described.

This fine book invites comparison with the French work *Anatomie Pathologique de l'Oeil et de ses Annexes* by G. Offret, P. Dhermy, A. Brini, and P. Bec, which provides a similarly up-to-date account of a comparably high standard. The French book, however, is written in essay form, concerns itself more with the pathogenesis of the conditions it describes, and pays more attention to the provision of original source references, whereas the book under review is more richly and better illustrated, often with electron micrographs, and is rather more comprehensive. It is undoubtedly the best textbook of descriptive pathology now available in the English language and can confidently be recommended to all those seeking knowledge in this branch of pathology whether for study, teaching or reference.

NORMAN ASHTON

**1975 Review of the Year Book of Pathology and Clinical Pathology. Pathology.** Edited by Frank A. Carone, **Clinical Pathology.** Edited by Rex B. Conn. (Pp. 558; illustrated; £13.75.) Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1975. Distributed in the United Kingdom by Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd, London.

The Year Book series is as old as the century, and its 75th birthday, celebrated by changing to a rich burgundy-coloured cover, is an occasion to review this essentially unreviewable anthology.

Just over 300 articles from the pathology journals of the English-writing world are presented as digests of 200-500 words, often with an illustration and always with a brief editorial comment. The latter usually mentions some other relevant articles on the subject. It is not a bad way to make a quick dip into any special branch of pathology and to find out what has been happening; not really a substitute for authoritative reviews, or for reading the primary journals, even if one seldom goes further than the summaries and titles, but a good 'long stop'. Personally, I enjoy the comments which add perspective and aid digestion. I also applaud the essay by one editor, Dr. R. B. Conn, on the discarding of useless tests, with particular reference to the NBT test.

The delay in publication is minimal; the 1975 edition published in July deals with the literature to September 1974; or so it is claimed, but, in fact, no paper from the *J. clin. Path.* is included after May 1974, thus omitting important papers, on gentamicin assay, for example. The production is good; the cost is no less than one has learned to expect.

H. E. M. KAY

**Quality Control in Microbiology.** Edited by James E. Prier, Josephine Bantola, and Herman Friedman. (Pp. x + 188; illustrated; £7.25.) London: University Park Press, Baltimore. 1975.

This is a collection of contributions to a symposium held in Philadelphia in November 1973. There are 14 contributors, three of them medical microbiologists.

Six of the contributors come from Government supported laboratories including CDC and ATCC; four of them have university or research appointments, two of them are from hospital departments, and two from commercial firms:

all are known for their work in the field of diagnostic medical microbiology.

There is an excellent contribution by Dr. R. C. Bartlett on 'Can we afford the price of quality?' and he also contributes useful appendices illustrating the method of monitoring in his own hospital department.

Contributions are inevitably uneven but all are well worth reading. That of Dr. Wright from the US Food and Drug Administration on antibiotic susceptibility discs tells how the Bauer-Kirby method was accepted as the standard test in the USA. This is not a popular method in Europe but the problems they encountered are of general interest.

The publishers claim that this book should be essential reading for all clinical microbiology personnel. In Britain, where the organization of laboratories is somewhat different, it will be of interest to directors of diagnostic laboratories and should be read by all those concerned with distribution of quality control material.

E. JOAN STOKES

## Correction

In the paper 'Isolation of chlamydia in irradiated and non-irradiated McCoy cells' by L. Johnson and I. A. Harper (*J. clin. Path.*, 1975, 28, 1003) there is an error in the third paragraph of the paper under the subheading 'tissue culture'; the last two lines should read:

'100 µg vancomycin, and 50 µg streptomycin per ml'.