
Sixteen diverse topics are covered in this review of progress in the large field of hematology. They can be grouped in the following manner: abnormal hemoglobins by Zuelzer, Neel, and Robinson; biochemical and enzymatic properties of leukocytes by Valentine; the vital subject of auto-immune thrombocytopenias by Harrington, Minnich, and Arimura; fibrinogen deficiencies by Schneider and gastrointestinal hemorrhage by Bodi, Wirts, and Tocantins; Lupus erythematosus by Hargraves and Opfell; agammaglobulinemia by Gitlin and Janeway; irradiation injury by Jacobson; and red cell survival by Strumia. Various aspects of therapy have been divided: pernicious anemia by Ungley and Thompson; hypochronic anemia by Brown and Moore; exchange transfusion by Boggs; acquired hemolytic anemia (radioactive colloidal gold) by Tocantins and Wang; polycythemia (radioactive phosphorus) by Erf; hemophilia (surgical problems) by DePalma; and chemotherapy of leukemia by Burchenal and Ellison. The names of the authors are familiar in the hematologic literature. They are well known for meritorious contributions in the special area of each subject.

One can say without reservation that they have written a clear, complete, and objective presentation of difficult subjects. There are exhaustive references of recent literature. The book will no doubt prove useful to all general practitioners and specialists interested in disorders of blood.

The publishers have done an excellent job of outfitting the volume as to size, paper and typography.

This type of periodic review is badly needed. Let us hope that the publication will be continued.

Chicago, Illinois

I. DAVIDSOHN


The author of this book has contributed considerably to the details of histochemistry of the skin, and this book is essentially a compilation of such details as derive, in large part, from studies of various laboratory animals. Each component of the skin—the epidermis, sweat, and sebaceous glands; the pilary system, and the remainder of the dermis—is dealt with in individual chapters which, with a concluding short chapter entitled “Reflections,” comprise the text.

In listing the kinds of specialists for whom this book is intended, the author does not incline to include pathologists—and presumably with good reason. Comparatively little attempt is made to integrate normal structure with pathology or pathologic physiology which, in small, judiciously selected doses, would have helped much toward spicing the otherwise relatively flat (albeit highly significant) facts of cutaneous cytochemistry. Perhaps this void is most conspicuously evident in the section on pigment, which, in addition, could have effectively used a good deal more of critical histologic analysis. Actually there is disproportionately little devoted even to normal function, notwithstanding the title of the book. Nevertheless, much authoritative morphologic and chemical data and a particularly abundant bibliography have been collected for this short book which will be of interest to the small (but fortunately increasing) number of pathologists engaged in basic investigative work on the skin.

New York, New York

ARTHUR C. ALLEN