Book review

Human Anti-Human Gammaglobulins. Their Specificity and Function. By R. GRUBB and G. SAMUELSSON. 1971. Pp. 227, 73 figs. *Pergamon Press*, Oxford. (£6)

At this symposium some recent major advances in the analysis of the polymorphism of human gammaglobulin molecules were described and their significance for a better understanding of some of the pathological processes underlying rheumatic disease was discussed. The first part of this book deals with the genes whose interactions determine heavy chain synthesis and allotypy, and the explanation of the differences between the human anti-allotypic antiglobulins which react with Gm markers on the γ -chains, and the anti-idiotypic activity of some human sera against sites on the variable regions of the chains. This leads to useful sections on other determinants

on the IgG molecule, especially those involved in rheumatoid factor reactions, and thus to several excellent contributions on anti-gammaglobulin factors in tissues including some interesting data on the occurrence of bound antiglobulin activity in the tissue lesions of the lepromatous form of leprosy, as well as to more familiar work on rheumatoid tissue. The inter-reactivities of other globulin molecules, such as cryoglobulins, and the lesions that can result, also receive their fair share of space. A section on the immunoglobulin determinants on lymphocytes and the effects of anti-sera to different immunoglobulin determinants on lymphocyte behaviour foreshadows the expansion of interest in lymphocyte surface antigens that has occurred the last 2 years. This is a book that biologists and rheumatologists alike will appreciate.

E. J. HOLBOROW

Notes

Workshop on Surgery for Upper Limb Arthritis

Royal Postgraduate Medical School London, March 23-24, 1972

ORGANIZERS: Prof. E. G. L. Bywaters, Prof. J. S. Calnan, Mr. M. A. R. Freeman, and Dr. P. J. L. Holt.

This workshop, which is intended for specialists in the field of conservative and reconstructive surgery of upper limb arthritis, will include sessions on biomechanics, surgical treatment, artificial joints, and current research.

Supported by the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

Applications to the Assistant School Secretary, Postgraduate Medical School, Ducane Road, Hammersmith, W12. Inclusive fee, £12.

Mathilda and Terence Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology

The vacant post of Director has been filled by Dr. L. E. Glynn, M.D., F.R.C.P., the Deputy Director of the M.R.C. Rheumatism Research Unit, Taplow, and Director of the Department of Pathology at the Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital. The appointment is on a part-time basis.

Dr. Glynn serves on the Editorial Committee of the *Annals* and is well known to many of its readers for his research into the pathology and aetiology of rheumatoid arthritis; he is also President of the Heberden Society.

Editorial Committee

Dr. D. C. Dumonde, Head of the Immunology Division of the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, and Dr. E. J. Holborow, of the M.R.C. Rheumatism Research Unit, Taplow, have joined the Editorial Committee of the *Annals*. Dr. Dumonde's interests lie mainly in the field of cell-mediated immunity and its relation to rheumatology. Dr. Holborow, who is also an authority on immunological aspects of the rheumatic diseases, is particularly well known for his work on serological and immunofluorescent techniques.