consecutive occasions by 5-day courses of intravenously administered cytosine arabinoside 100 mg/day.

This patient was followed by us for a further period of 22 months. During that time, while the haematological picture remained unchanged, he suffered from eleven episodes of excruciating bone pain, always responsive to the same treatment. Repeated skeletal x-rays and bone scans showed no osteolytic lesions. In December 1977 a fatal blastic crisis occurred. Permission for necropsy was

not granted.

These data provide further evidence of the beneficial effect of cytosine arabinoside in the symptomatic treatment of patients with this condition.

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Book reviews

Lupus Erythematosus. A Review of the Current Status of Discoid and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and their Variants. 2nd revised edition. Edited by Edmund L. Dubois. (Pp. xv + 798; illustrated + tables. US \$39.50.) University of Southern California Press: Los Angeles. 1976.

This revised edition makes its appearance only 2 years after the printing of the second edition. The editor in his preface explains that the decision to revise the text rather than merely reprinting was taken so that the book could be updated by integrating more than 100 key references representing significant advances or new review articles which had been published up to July 1976. This has been achieved by inserting appropriate sentences or paragraphs in the supplementary chapters which were added for the second edition. The overall layout of book, in terms of text, tables, and illustrations has not therefore significantly altered.

This book remains a *tour de force*; all aspects of SLE are dealt with, covering its history, laboratory animal models, pathology, current immunological status, and clinical aspects of the disease. Each chapter has been written by acknowledged experts within this field and the total list of references exceeds 3000. Certain statements, such as the LE cell test is the mainstay for the diagnosis of SLE, would not now be accepted by all rheumatologists, and some imbalance has occurred by retaining unaltered the original chapters of the 1965 edition, such as that on biological false-positive tests for syphilis, particularly as the Wassermann reaction is now rarely used in routine serological testing.

The book would become more readable if the original chapters and the supplementary chapters added for the second edition were integrated, but it remains an essential reference work for any clinician or laboratory worker interested in this field. Those already possessing the 1974 second edition need not feel compelled to purchase the revised version because of the relatively minor additions, but the editor must be congratulated for attempting to keep this textbook as up to date as possible.

IAN GRIFFITHS

Connective Tissue Diseases. By Graham R. V. Hughes. (Pp. 266; illustrated + tables. £9.00, paperback.) Blackwell: Oxford. 1977.

This fairly small volume provides a concise and highly readable account of this complex group of diseases. It combines a clear and comprehensive review of their clinical manifestations with discussion of possible pathogenetic mechanisms. Systemic lupus erythematosus, as might be expected, receives the greatest attention in view of the clinical diversity of this condition, the widespread immunological abnormalities, and the findings in animal models. The possibility of a viral aetiology and the propensity of patients with inherited complement deficiencies to develop systemic lupus erythematosus are both important discussion points. A similar format covering epidemiology, pathology, and clinical findings is used in most subsequent sections to deal with the

spectrum of diseases from rheumatoid arthritis and polymyositis to the various vasculitides. The author points out that a detailed description of rheumatoid arthritis is beyond the scope of this volume. The text is complemented by the liberal use of tables to summarise the main points of discussion. Short case histories have been included frequently and in general these are very effective in illustrating clinical problems of diagnosis or management.

This book must be considered as essential reading for postgraduate students studying for higher medical degrees. However, the last two sections, which provide a brief outline of immune complex disease and immunological tests in the rheumatic diseases, might for such readers be better placed as introductory chapters, since they are closely connected with the discussion of aetiological factors. There are a number of minor printing errors, particularly in the first half of the book, but the comprehensive lists of up-to-date references at the end of each chapter further recommends this text as an important reference for all working in the field of the rheumatic diseases.

J. D. PHILLIPS

Arthritis: a Quarter Century of Research. Edited by Eng M. Tan and Morris Haff. (Pp. 252; illustrated + tables. US \$9.00.) Arthritis Foundation: Atlanta, Georgia. 1977.

This book comprises a collection of 31 papers given at a conference commemorating the 25th anniversary of the

Arthritis Foundation Research Fellowship Program of the United States. It records the development of the Arthritis Foundation, which by itself makes interesting reading; however this takes up only a small part of the text. My first reaction was that this was yet another symposium proceedings; indeed, there is much which is familiar. There are nevertheless many excellent presentations by contributors who are experts in their field. Dr Morris Ziff in his introduction to the immunological aspects of rheumatoid synovitis emphasises that these studies have served as a model for research on immunologically-induced inflammation in other disease states, as the sequence of events encompasses almost every type of immune response encountered in chronic immunological disease. There follows excellent presentation on lymphocyte abnormalities and HLA-D typing in rheumatoid arthritis, and a particularly useful review of the structure of lymphoid cell-surface antigens. Dr Henry Kunkel discusses some of the current immunological work, especially that concerning immune complexes and their relevance to the renal disease of systemic lupus erythematosus. There follow chapters on anti-DNA antibodies, antinuclear antibodies, mixed connective tissue disease, and the treatment of systemic lupus.

However, it should not be thought that this conference was devoted only to immunological aspects of the rheumatic diseases. There is a section on the current state of research in osteoarthritis, including chapters on experimental models, the structure and metabolism of proteoglycans, and in particular the change in proteoglycan metabolism that occurs in osteoarthritis. There is also a section on gout and related disorders of purine metabolism, which ranges from chapters on the regulation of the immune response and purine metabolism by Drs Carson and Seegmiller to a more clinical chapter by Dr Klinenberg on the pathogenesis and treatment of renal stones. Included also is a section devoted to amyloidosis which is reviewed comprehensively; a chapter on the classification of childhood arthritis; and Dr Shulman's discussion of diffuse fasciitis with eosinophilia.

In summary, there is something of interest for all and this book is recommended; at today's prices it is a bargain at \$9.00.

B. L. HAZLEMAN

Crystal-Induced Arthropathies. Edited by William N. Kelley. *Clinics in Rheumatic Diseases*, Vol. 3, No. 1. (Pp. vii + 171; illustrated + tables. £8.25). Saunders: Philadelphia, London, and Toronto. 1977.

This compact book contains ten articles, all written by acknowledged experts in the field and relating to various aspects of the crystal-induced diseases of joints. Much of the book is devoted to the pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment of hyperuricaemia and gout, but other forms of crystal deposition disease, including that due to calcium pyrophosphate and hydroxyapatite, are adequately covered too. Though the work in no way competes with the larger tomes recently published dealing in particular with gout, the succinct presentation readily commends itself to the practising physician. It is refreshingly up to date, all authors except one quoting references from the 1976 literature.

This is in fact the seventh number of a series, the first of which was entitled *Rheumatic Manifestations of Systemic Disease*, edited by Professor Bywaters. Other titles have included *The Current Management of Rheumatoid Arthritis* edited by Drs Carl Pearson and Carson Dick; *Systemic Lupus Erythematosus* edited by Dr Naomi Rothfield; *Diagnosis and Assessment* edited by Professor Malcolm Jayson; *Rheumatic Diseases in Childhood* edited by Dr Barbara Ansell; and *Osteoarthritis* edited by Professor Verna Wright. Each volume consists of a series of review articles relating to the central theme.

'Clinics in Rheumatic Diseases' represent a useful addition to the rheumatological literature, helping to fill the very real gap that exists between original articles appearing in journals such as this and the larger textbooks which can, of necessity, only be produced at intervals of several years.

R. GRAHAME

Penicillamine Research in Rheumatoid Disease. Edited by E. Munthe. (Pp. 340; illustrated + tables. US \$27.00.) Merck Sharpe and Dohme: Norway. 1977.

This book comprises the proceedings of a symposium entitled 'Penicillamine in Rheumatic Diseases. Mode of Action—a Key to Pathogenesis?' held at Spatind, Norway, March 7–10, 1976. Under the

chairmanship of Dr Israel Jaffe the workshop had a truly international flavour. The topics covered a wide range of differing aspects of penicillamine action *in vitro*, and its effects on collagen metabolism and on humoral and cellular immunity were well covered. There was little new to emerge in the clinical studies and the question of the optimum dose remains unresolved. The papers on side effects focused largely on the renal lesion and Goodpasture's syndrome. One pleasing feature of the text is the very full account of the discussion that took place after each paper and the informal style with which this was presented.

As an appendix to the volume, the reader is offered a number of papers given at the 2nd meeting of the Standing Committee on International Clinical Studies of the European League Against Rheumatism, which was held on the day immediately preceding the penicillamine workshop. The topics discussed included evaluation of drugs, animal models, radiological evaluation, and the benefits of surgery.

R. GRAHAME

HLA and Disease. Edited by Jean Dausset and Arne Svejgaard. (Pp. 316; illustrated + tables. Dkr 180.) Munksgaard: Copenhagen. 1977.

This book was written after the first International Symposium on HLA and Disease held in Paris in June 1976. It is not strictly speaking a record of the proceedings of the symposium, but a summary of the state of knowledge at that time. It is broadly divided into three sections. In the first the previous work on other genetic markers, such as the ABO blood group system, is reviewed by Dr A. E. Mourant. Following this are chapters on the biology of the major histocompatibility complex. Dr Rose Payne gives a very clear account of the HLA region in man and Drs Svejgaard and Ryder report on the HLA and disease registry, listing the current data on disease associations and discussing the pitfalls of such studies.

The second section contains more detailed reviews of associations between specific diseases and HLA antigens. Most of the reports are written by the chairmen of the various workshops at the Paris meeting and included are sections on neurology, dermatology, gastroenterology,