

written and holds the interest of the reader. The illustrations are exceptionally good.

A critical review of the amount of work represented by the above list of titles is impossible in the space feasible. The reviewer's purpose is frankly to acquaint readers with the existence and prospective growth of a publication that already reveals itself as specialized academic pathology at its best. Opportunities for dissent are of course given, for the vigor of the individual writers' opinions has wisely been encouraged. Undoubtedly, however, the *Atlas* is accomplishing its intent to standardize the nomenclature of neoplasms and to organize, both pictorially and verbally, what is essential to the "definition and diagnosis" of neoplasms. The practitioner, the surgeon and the pathologist, and all students of cancer, will be grateful for it and, incidentally, for the benevolent subsidizing that permits its low price. The investigator, too, will find it a valuable source of reference.

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Heredity in Uterine Cancer. By D. P. MURPHY. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1952. Pp. 128. \$2.50.

This small volume of the Commonwealth Fund series contains the results of a study on cancer in relatives of 201 women with cancer of the uterus, as compared to 215 control probands. The author concludes that hereditary factors affect the frequency of cancer of the uterus and obtains some indication that hereditary factors influence the occurrence of cancer at other sites, although no conclusion as to whether all these factors are specific for sites other than uterus was possible. The bibliography is exceptionally abbreviated, contains few recent references, and no consideration of the results of animal experimentation is included. It is also unfortunate that the sources of material did not allow distinction between carcinoma of cervix and corpus uteri and between different histological types of the malignancies studied. However it is apparent that a careful study has been made, and limitations are largely those of utilizing human material. One is impressed with how well the data are organized, and the generous allocation of space to explanation of methods used is commendable.

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Das Phasenkontrastverfahren in der Medizin. By H. G. HANSEN, A. ROMINGER, and K. MICHEL. In German. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht Verlag. Pp. 92.

The first part of this small manual on the physical aspects of phase-contrast microscopy introduces the reader to the theoretical side of this important tool for studying intracellular structures. This part is very clearly written. The practical side of this technic is dealt with in the second part. Here we find detailed instructions as to how to employ phase contrast microscopy in different fields.

Apart from a general introduction with respect to the preparation of objects to be studied, this part covers the use of phase contrast microscopy for the following fields, in particular: hematology, biopsy, normal and pathological histology, tumor cells in tissues and body fluids, uni- and multicellular organisms, normal and pathologically altered body fluids, and excreta.

This monograph contains numerous excellent photographs and drawings and can be highly recommended to those who wish to familiarize themselves with this research tool.

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Tendances Actuelles des Recherches de Chimiothérapie des États Cancéreux. By R. TRUHAUT. Chapter in "Actualités Pharmacologiques" 5^{ème} série. In French. Paris: Masson et Cie, 1952. Pp. 58.

This review of experimental cancer chemotherapy written in French appeared last year. As it was published in a volume that may not be generally available to investigators in this field, it seems desirable to call attention to the review.

The compounds ordinarily considered in such reviews have been discussed competently under two categories: (1) those agents which modify the cellular environment and (2) those acting directly upon the cell—e.g., mitotic poisons, antimetabolites, and miscellaneous substances. The material covered is now at least a year out of date, but that is the fate of any review in a still rapidly growing field. Despite this unavoidable defect the review is a useful presentation of the perspective of a European investigator and also has an excellent bibliography, which contains 319 specific references listed alphabetically plus a list of 50 general references and reviews. Some of the references are ones not observed in other reviews on this subject either because of their temporal or spatial unavailability.

Evidence for care in using some of the material in the review may be found in errors that happened to be noted—e.g., the formula of picropodophyllin, page 229, is incorrect even for what was considered to be the formula at the time the review was prepared; on page 231 melamine has been misspelled; on page 247 reference is made to Sarcoma 180 in the rat rather than the mouse; and in the bibliography Hoster's name has been misspelled. In spite of these minor errors the review should be quite useful to those interested in experimental cancer chemotherapy.

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Voprosi Onkologii (Problems of Oncology). N. N. PETROV, A. I. RAKOV, A. I. SEREBROV, S. A. Kholdin, and L. M. SHABAD (eds.). In Russian. Moscow: Acad. Meditsinskikh Nauk SSSR, 1950. Pp. 536. Price: 37 roubles, 80 kopeks.

This is a publication of the proceedings of an All-Soviet Union Conference on Oncology, held in Lenin-

Cancer Research

The Journal of Cancer Research (1916–1930) | The American Journal of Cancer (1931–1940)

Das Phasenkontrastverfahren in der Medizin: By H. G. Hansen, A. Rominger, and K. Michel. In German. Gö: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht Verlag. Pp. 92.

Hanns Schmitz

Cancer Res 1953;13:614.

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