

Book Reviews

Cancer of the Nasopharynx. UICC Monograph Series, Vol. 1. A Symposium Organized by the International Union Against Cancer, C. S. Muir and K. Shanmugaratnam (eds.). Flushing, New York: Medical Examination Publishing Company, 1967. 259 pp. \$18.

Cancer of the Nasopharynx is a symposium organized by the International Union Against Cancer. The first 137 pages of this book are devoted to epidemiology. A number of authors establish without question that carcinoma of the nasopharynx is extremely common in Chinese males and that genetic factors must be important in the etiology of this disease, since the incidence in other racial groups is essentially the same the world over. A number of authors, however, report the possible exogenous factors of the neoplasm. One group from Taiwan reports a high concentration of arsenic in the scalp hair and fingernails of patients with carcinoma of the nasopharynx, but the remainder of the studies are inconclusive. Several chapters describe the incidence of nasopharynx and paranasal malignancies in Africans for comparison with the high incidence of carcinoma of the nasopharynx in individuals of Chinese descent. No other correlations are apparent and the chapters could be omitted. In the histology section, all authors agree that the majority of these tumors are of squamous cell origin and, therefore, represent variants of a squamous cell carcinoma. The sections on chemically induced neoplasms in the respiratory tract of mice and on the spontaneous neoplasms in the respiratory tract of animals are interesting additions to the text, but the relationship of this type of lesion to squamous cell carcinoma of the nasopharynx in humans is certainly remote. The final chapter on radiologic diagnosis provides an excellent review of this subject. The epidemiologic studies, however, are the most interesting part of the volume; the remainder has little to recommend it.

R. Robinson Baker

Canadian Cancer Conference. Proceedings of the Seventh Canadian Cancer Research Conference, Honey Harbour, Ontario, 1966. J. F. Morgan, R. L. Noble, R. J. Rossiter, R. M. Taylor, A. C. Wallace, and D. M. Whitelaw (eds.). New York: Pergamon Press, 1967. 432 pp. \$25.

This volume is a compilation of twenty-two papers presented at the Seventh Canadian Cancer Conference held at Honey Harbour, Ontario, in June 1966. The papers deal with the following areas of major interest in cancer research: cell proliferation, metabolic regulation, cell surfaces, nature of cancer, and radiobiology. These investigations are made in both normal and neoplastic cell populations or tissues. One is impressed with the steady progress being made in different areas of research. It is felt that the discussion of the papers should not have been omitted; its incorporation

would have helped in understanding the trends in various fields of research. Nevertheless, all investigators who are engaged in cancer research would find this volume very useful.

Prabhakar D. Lotlikar

Second Decennial Review Conference on Cell Tissue and Organ Culture. National Cancer Institute Monograph 26. Benton B. Westfall (ed.). Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1967. 429 pp. \$4.

Certain advances in the rapidly expanding field of cell, tissue, and organ culture were reviewed comprehensively at an international conference held in Bedford, Pennsylvania, September 11-15, 1966. This was the second such conference since the historic 1946 meeting at Hershey, Pennsylvania, that ultimately led to the formation of The Tissue Culture Association. The First Decennial Review Conference was held at Woodstock, Vermont, in 1956. The Bedford Conference produced this volume which brings together not only the fourteen major papers presented in the seven sessions, but also discussions and comments by the panelists and other participants at each session. The session topics in chronologic order are sufficiently descriptive and comprehensive to merit repetition here, with the reservation in mind that much overlapping in coverage necessarily occurred: natural history of *in vitro* acclimation and the influence of nutrients, cellular fine structure, chromosomes and genetic expression of cells in culture, histochemistry and taxonomic enzymology of cells *in vitro*, cell interaction and organotypic expression, growth rate and differentiated function of cells, and spontaneous malignant transformation. Thus, the program started with evaluations of the adaptive phenomena of cells placed *in vitro*. The program continued with a consideration of cellular structure, metabolism, and interactions. Finally, the conference dealt with the ultimate fate of cells after they have been in culture for long periods of time.

This volume should be in the hands of the increasingly numerous investigators carrying on cell, tissue, or organ culture in biologic and medical research.

Jay C. Bryant

Practical Clinical Enzymology. J. King. Princeton, N. J.: D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., 1965. 363 pp.

This text written for clinical biochemists and medical laboratory technicians surveys the fundamentals of enzymology, i.e., the nature of enzyme activity, nomenclature and classification of enzymes, a practical discussion of enzyme kinetics and factors which control enzyme activity, the methods for assessment of enzyme activity, the nature of enzyme units as concentration measures and the significance of the newly defined international units, the choice of a biologic sample,

Cancer Research

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

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Jay C. Bryant

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