

## BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

### CELL STRUCTURE

*Cell Structure.* An introduction to biological electron-microscopy. By P. G. Toner and K. E. Carr. Pp. viii + 190. Illustrated. £2.2.5. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1968.

Electron-microscopy is now regularly employed in a wide variety of fields of science and it is most desirable that the medical student should have ample opportunity to acquire a sound knowledge of the fine structure of cells on which to base his studies on anatomy, biochemistry and medicine.

This volume is presented as an introduction to biological electron-microscopy. It deals with the structure of cells and the function of cell components. There is a section covering techniques and applications, as well as an important chapter on critical analysis of what is seen in the electron-micrograph.

The authors and publisher are to be congratulated on a truly beautiful and informative production at a very reasonable price.

A.K.

### RENAL DISEASE

*Structural Basis of Renal Disease.* Ed. by E. Lovell Becker, M.D. Pp. xii + 770. Illustrated. \$39.50. New York: Hoeber Medical Division, Harper & Row. 1968.

Dr Lovell Becker has assembled a group of 33 authors who are experts on various aspects of renal disease, with the main aim of relating structure to function in the light of recent advances in knowledge. This volume is timely, since it attempts to present the experience gained over the last 10 years or more. Renal biopsy has made this possible and, apart from reevaluation of light microscopic findings, electron-microscopy and histochemical and immunofluorescent techniques, has greatly added to our knowledge.

The book is extremely well produced and embodies a novel feature—the inclusion of an atlas of all illustrations at the end of each chapter. In my opinion this arrangement has little to commend it: the plates would have been better related to the relevant text. Although the standard of the reproductions is good and the electron-microscopic pictures are of a high

quality, many of the light microscopic plates leave a great deal to be desired. Furthermore, the extensive reliance on animal preparations is unfortunate, but no doubt is dictated by the paucity of normal human material. Extensive bibliographies accompany each chapter.

As in all compilations of this nature there is, of course, a certain amount of repetition, plus considerable variations in presentation and style. It is surprising in a volume of this kind that so little attention has been devoted to analgesic nephropathy, and among the omissions are heat stroke and its effect on the kidney, sickle-cell anaemia and quartan malaria, particularly its relationship to the nephrotic syndrome.

The book is nevertheless welcomed as a valuable addition to the nephrological literature and will be of absorbing interest to nephrologists, pathologists and physicians. It is an essential reference book.

L.E.

### AMPUTASIES EN PROSTESES

*Amputation and Prostheses.* A survey in North-West Europe and North America. By G. E. Fulford, M.B., F.R.C.S. and M. J. Hall, Ph.D. Pp. v + 107. Illustrated. £2.2.0. Bristol: John Wright & Sons. 1968.

Hierdie boek is geskryf deur 'n ortopediese chirurg en 'n ingenieur wat afgevaardig is deur die 'British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association' om die jongste ontwikkelings in amputasies en prosteses te ondersoek en aanbevelings te maak. Hulle het al die vernaamste sentrums in Noordwes-Europa en Noord-Amerika besoek en hulle beskryf nie alleenlik die verskillende tipes kunsledemate nie, maar ook hoe hulle vervaardig word.

Al die jongste tegnieke van mioplastie en osteoplastie asook die postoperatiewe passing van prosteses word bespreek. Uit die aard van die saak gaan hulle nie in detail in nie, maar daar is volledige verwysing vir iemand wat verder wil lees.

Dit is 'n uitstekende boek wat sterk aanbeveel kan word vir sowel ortopediese chirurgie en almal wat amputasies doen, as die tegnici wat kunsledemate vervaardig.

R.N.L.R.