quality of the photomicrographs and anatomical
tical drawings is exceptional. Because
the slides used as source material were
derived from the NCI bioassay programme
and the NTP archive, going back many years,
there was no shortage of examples of lesions
to present. For this reason the individual
photomicrographs are usually only approxi-
mately 8 cm x 6 cm, fitting six to a single
page. However, the quality and consistency of
photomicrographs, with good positional
indicators for features of particular interest,
allows this. There are no colour plates
included, but this was probably a good
decision. With so many plates included in
the text it would have been very difficult to
decide which to have in colour, and to have
this done to a high standard would have
made the book prohibitively expensive. At
a price of $125 it really is a bargain in the
age of expensive books. It will ensure also
that it is available to more libraries and
individuals as the definitive reference text
and atlas on the pathology of the Fischer
344 rat.

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J. M. FACCINI, D. P. ABBOTT and J. J.
PAULUS
Mouse Histopathology, A Glossary for Use
in Toxicity and Carcinogenicity Studies
Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1990; 225 pp., 225 G

The authors state in the introduction to this
book that it is intended as a companion to
'Rat Histopathology' by Greaves and Faccini
(1984). Both books also are intended to be
bench references for toxicological histopatho-
ologists, with the emphasis on description
and identification of lesions found in rodents.
This text is a classification of the natural
background lesions that have been found in
control CD-1 mice, used in studies at the
Centre de Recherche, Pfizer, Amboise,
France, and is subtitled 'A glossary for use in
toxicity and carcinogenicity studies'.

The eleven chapters cover the integumentary,
haematopoietic and lymphatic, musculo-
keletal and soft tissue, cardiovascular, digestive and nervous and special sense organ
systems, as well as the respiratory, urinary,
female and male genital tracts and the
endocrine glands.

The chapter on the digestive system uses
a rather old reference to viral diseases
(Seamer, 1967), which contains a section on
the non-existent lethal intestinal virus of
infant mice, now known to be mouse hepa-
titis virus. There are also irritating, rather
than serious, proof-reading errors, such as
cencephalomyocarditis virus being abbrevi-
ated to EIMCV rather than the usual EMC,
and coronavirus is misspelt.

The section on infections of the respiratory
tract also could be improved. K virus is so
rare as to not need including. However,
reference to Pasteurella pneumotropica
which is not only very commonly isolated
from mouse colonies but is also well docu-
mented to be an opportunistic chronic infec-
tion, usually in conjunction with Mycoplasma
pulmonis or Sendai virus, is omitted.

Some of the nomenclature used for
tumours also seems controversial. To
describe mesothelioma as mesenchymal sar-
coma in parentheses is confusing. There are
sarcomatous, epithelial and mixed types of
mesothelioma. It was noticeable that the one
shown was epithelial. The term mesenchymal
sarcoma would have been better omitted.

The section on neoplastic lesions of the
bile duct includes in the subheading the term
cholangiosarcoma. The authors go on to say
that tumours of this possible type (poorly
differentiated with anaplastic elements but
with ducts composed of columnar epithelial
cells) are very rare and may not be pure
cholangiosarcomas. Such tumours could be
described equally well as possible cholangio-
carcinomas. Other authors have avoided this
term, and perhaps it would have been better
to omit it as part of a subheading in a
glossary if there is such uncertainty about
the existence of this tumour type.

This book would have been of greater
interest to toxicological histopathologists had
it included more comparative pathology of
treatment-induced lesions and tumours. This
could be seen clearly where neoplastic lesions
of the urinary bladder were discussed. The
natural lesion described as an epithelial
proliferation in the bladder wall could be
confused at the LM level with the chemically
or chronic irritation-induced smooth muscle
tumour seen in mice, sometimes referred to
as a 'vegetative lesion'. Although this is an
important distinction in terms of comparative
pathology, the discussion of any such con-
fusion in diagnosis is outside the scope of
the book if induced lesions are not included.

The price of £70 (approx.) seems rather
high compared to some of the more recently
published books on toxicological histopathol-
ogy, such as the excellent 'Atlas of Exper-
imental Toxicological Pathology' by Gopinath,
Prentice and Lewis (£75 approx.), 'Col-
our Atlas of Neoplastic and Non-neoplastic
Lesions in Aging Mice' by Frith and Ward
(£74 approx.) or the definitive 'Pathology of the
Fischer rat' by Boorman, Eisits, Elwell,
Montgomery and MacKenzie (£90 approx.).

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A. K. ARMITAGE (ed.)
Other People's Tobacco Smoke
Galen Press, Beverly, 1991; 192 pp., £12.95

"Other people's tobacco smoke" is an emotive
and political subject and it is not surprising
to find, at the start of this volume, that the
tobacco manufacturers Philip Morris are
acknowledged for their support. Although
the contents of any volume on this subject
produced by either the industry or by 'Action
on Smoking and Health' are predictable,
criticism of source rather than content is the
antithesis of science; it is therefore necessary
to examine the data offered. Thus, although
it now seems to be officially accepted that
other people's smoke is health damaging as
well as being irritating and aesthetically
objectionable, it is well worth examining the
data on which these conclusions are drawn.
The contents of this book certainly do just
that and provide a reasonable source book
on the evidence for adverse effects of
environmental cigarette smoke (ETS) and
provide some of the arguments weakening
that evidence.

To the applied toxicologist, ETS is only
one example of low-level exposure to a
material whose high dose effects are well
known and uncontroversial. In this case,
however, a number of eminent epidemiolog-
ists have concluded that the low-level effects
for at least the wives of smokers are quanti-
ified and that this enables extrapolation to
other exposures. Some of the authors in this
volume are sceptical of these conclusions
and go a long way to justify their scepticism.

In addition to chapters on the specific
health effect of smoking, others deal with
indoor air quality and the social science
aspects of the subject. Bernice Martin
describes the sociology of the campaign
against tobacco smoke and Petr Skrabarnek
brings his not insignificant wit to bear on
society's attitudes to smoking. The former
author is new to me but I have previously
enjoyed Dr Skrabarnek's thoughts on several
other subjects.

Over all, if you enjoy controversy and
are able to read unorthodox opinions I
recommend this book, although in some
institutes (not known for their open minds
on this subject) it may have to be read in a
plain brown cover.

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