1. **MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF THE CELL** by Bruce Alberts. Dennis Brory. Julian Lewis, Martin Raff, Keith Roberts. Janies D. Watson. £19.95, Garland Publishing. Inc. 1983.

Molecular pathology can be regarded as a discipline in its own right. Knowledge of Molecular Biology is fast becoming an essential tool in the understanding of cell functions in normal and disease states. This volume provides a comprehensive guide to the understanding of the subject of cell biology. It is obvious that effort has been made to ensure that the presentation is simple yet lucid and coherent. The layout is systematic, comprising a total of 19 chapters in 3 related parts (Parts I, II and III). The readers are given clear perspective of cell structures, functions and behaviour in multicellular organisms. It also includes a chapter on the basic principles of experimental methods and techniques for investigating cells.

Its 1146 pages arc punctuated with informative and appropriate illustrations and tables. This book is not only useful for undergraduate and postgraduate students in cell biology; it is also suitable for postgraduate trainees in medical fields who arc in search of a guide in this vast field of knowledge.

In spite of it being a large book. the price is more than reasonable (L10.95). Most professionals, including students can afford to acquire a copy. However the savings in terms of cost may be a factor in the relatively poor binding of the book. and pages arc imminently in danger of coming loose.

With the knowledge of molecular biology so rapidly advancing. it will be necessary for this book to be updated approximately cvcry 3 years to furnish further exciting facts. more recent references and newer techniques currently adopted.

S.C.Peh

2. **BIOPSY PATHOLOGY OF THE BREAST** by J.P. Sloane. L25.00. Chapman and Hall Ltd.. 1985.

Breast lesions form a large part of the routine diagnostic load of a histopathological laboratory. It is unfortunate, therefore, that the pathology of the brcast is bedevilled by a multitude of archaic terms that mean different things to different people. This is compounded by a dearth of books to turn to for illumination. While Azzopardi's "Problems in Breast Pathology" is quite comprehensive. it perhaps provides a little too much. There has thus been a crying need for a small book that will guide pathologist and trainee safely through the minefield that is the breast. Sloane's "Biopsy Pathology of the Breast" fills this need quite adequately.

The book concentrates on the practical aspects of diagnosis of brcast discase. It begins with a chapter on the normal female breast and then continues with separate chapters on the patliological examination of the brcast and on cytodiagnosis. After a brief chapter on developmental abnormalities, the various forms of non-neoplastic epithelial change, usually glossed over in most books, are described in a well-illustrated chapter. The problems of intraductal hyperplasia and neoplasia and of intralobular hyperplasia and neoplasia: long a pitfall for the unwary; each warrant separate chapters, as does infiltrating carcinoma. In between, there is a well-referenced chapter discussing the problem of preneoplasia. Subsequent chapters discuss fibroadenoma and its variants (including cystosarcoma), miscellaneous tumours and lesions, the male breast and changes affecting regional lymph nodes. Each chapter is well-referenced and includes references to articles published in 1985.

If there is a deficiency in the book, it is perhaps that the discussion of cystosarcoma phyllodes (now called 'phyllodes tumour' by WHO). faiis to adequately convey the difficulties involved in its diagnosis. Perhaps this is an impossible task in a book that covers essentially all of breast pathology in a mere 275 pages.

While this book is quite adequate in itself, for best benefit. use i t in conjunction with the coloured illustrations in Millis' "Atlas of Breast Pathology".

S.M. Chong.