Book Reviews

A MEDICAL LABORATORY FOR DE-VELOPING COUNTRIES by Maurice King M. D., F.R.C.P. Oxford Univ. Press, Lond. 1974 43.50 net.

THE AUTHOR claims that the aim of the book is to bring a minimum level of pathological services within the range of everyone in the developing countries. It is primarily addressed to the laboratory assistants and medical assistants who work in health centres and district hospitals. The methods described here will also be useful to all doctors who deal with ward-side rooms, consultation rooms of general practitioners and the laboratory of every out-patient department.

The value of this work lies in that it is written in simple language and copiously illustrated, and the methods chosen are claimed to provide the greatest diagnostic value for the limited funds available, the total cost of the equipment in the basic list given here being about US \$500/- including the microscope.

This is a manual which should find a place in every laboratory concerned in routinely confirming the diagnosis of common and important conditions in developing countries.

CYTOLOGY OF THE FEMALE GENITAL TRACT by G. Rioton, W. M. Christopherson and R. Lurat W.H.O., Geneva 1973, pp 41 and 195 colour illust. £19. This is the 8th volume in the series of tumour classifications being published by W.H.O. It is concerned with cytological rather than histologeal diagnosis. It is emphasised that the cell identification and interpretation are an integral part of pathology but few pathologists have experience in cytodiagnosis. The primary application of uterine cytology is the mass screening of women for the early detection of cancer, especially asymptomatic cancer of the cervix.

Attention is drawn in the book to the importance of establishing adequate training standards for cytology technicians in order to ensure that the maximum benefit is obtained from such screening programmes.

MANNUAL ON LARVAL CONTROL OPERATIONS IN MALARIA PROGRAMMES. WHO Offset Publication No. 1, Geneva 1973 pp 199. WHO Malaria Eradication Programmes have largely depended on the attack against adult vector mosquitoes with the use of residual insecticides. In many places, however, this method has failed to produce effective results and anti-mosquito measures directed against the aquatic stages of the vectors have been increasingly resorted to as an aid.

This publication, prepared by the WHO Division of Malaria and Other Parasitic Diseases, is therefore timely and constitutes a comprehensive reference work on antilarval operations for the use of operational and engineering staff in malaria programmes and provides valuable teaching material for training courses.

CORRIGENDUM

Please note that the name of the co-author of the article 'Salbutamol in Premature Labour – a preliminary report which appeared in Vol. 28 No. 3, March 1974 pp. 191/193 should read D. K. Sen instead of D. K. Ken.