BOOK REVIEW

Annual Review of Immunology (Vol. 3) 1985 by William E. Paul, (Published by Annual Reviews Inc., 4139, Palo Alto, El Camino Way, California 94306, USA), pp. 584, Price USA $27-00; Elsewhere $30-00.

There are 21 articles in this issue. It starts with a personal discussion of the development of cellular immunology as a scientific discipline by Merril Chase. There are 7 papers of interest both to the immunologist and the clinician. Recent studies of hypersensitivity lung disease, mainly based on observations involving both human disease and animal models of disease are examined and the evolution of our knowledge of basic immunological reactions within the lung are emphasised by G. L. Larsen. The clinical features of pemphigus, the evidence for its mediation by the immune system, the recent studies on its pathogenesis and a hypothesis for the molecular mechanisms involved are dealt with by K. H. Singer et al. Jon Lindstrom reviews the relevant features of acetyl choline receptors discusses the essential features of myasthenia gravis, and experimental autoimmune myasthenia gravis and also deals with autoimmune etiology of Lambert-Eaton Syndrome. A. A. Rossini et al critically discuss the major trends in research on insulin dependent diabetes mellitus and in animal models of the disease. E. M. Shevach summarises the experiments performed in the past ten years on the effect of cyclosporin-A on many immunological situations and the drug’s utility. The clinical and research perspectives of human T cell leukaemia viruses are dealt with by S. Broder and R. C. Gallo, while H. C. Lane and A. S. Fauci discuss the immunological abnormalities in acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

Our increasing knowledge of T cells is reviewed by P. A. Henkart on lymphocyte mediated toxicity, by R. Schwartz on the nature of T cell recognition of antigen and major histocompatibility complex (MHC) gene products, by S. K. Durum et al on Inter-leukin-I, by L. Mengle-G and H. McDevitt on the genetics of class II MHC molecules and by Mark Davis on the molecular biology of beta chain T cell receptor. The recent progress in the fields of B cell development and regulation of immunoglobulin synthesis are highlighted in reviews which consist of T. Koshland’s paper on factors affecting B cell growth and differentiation, K. L. Calame’s on mechanisms regulating immunoglobulin gene expression, C. Whitlock et al on B cell development, H. N. Eisen and B. Reilly on \( \lambda \) chains and their genes and M. Koshland on the function of immunoglobulin J chains. There are in addition reviews on general issues such as immunotoxins and the atomic mobility component of protein antigenicity. The article by A. Capron and J. Dessaint on effector and regulatory mechanisms in immunity to schistosomes reflects the increasing attention paid these days to the study of the immunology of parasitic infections.

The list of related articles from other Annual Reviews of interest to immunologists is a welcome addition.

This volume reflects the galloping progress being made in the field of immunology and its contribution to the understanding of human diseases.

R. ANANTHANARAYAN

Apsara,
Opp. Srikanthswaram Fort,
Trivandrum 695 023.