

## BOOK REVIEW

*D. Garlick* (Ed.): *Festschrift for F.C. Courtice*. Sydney, School of Physiology and Pharmacology, University of New South Walse, 1981

Cost: Australian \$ 20 or US \$ 23,—, includes surface mailing. Cheques to be made out to University of New South Wales, Orders to be sent to Dr. *D. Garlick*, School of Physiology and Pharmacology, University of New South Wales, Kensington, 2033, Australia.

The book is a collection of papers presented by colleagues and former students to Emeritus Professor *F.C. Courtice* for his 70th birthday. *F.C. Courtice* returned to Australia from Oxford in 1948 to gather a team of young researchers at the Kanematsu Institute, Sydney Hospital. From there he became Foundation Professor of Experimental Pathology, John Curtin School of Medical Research, The Australian National University. *F.C. Courtice* has had a seminal influence on the development of biological and medical research in Australia since 1950. He developed a centre of international standing on the physiology of lymph, lymphatics and lymphoid tissue.

The contribution of the Courtice school to the study of lymph and lymphatics is reflected in that nine out of 24 papers are on this area. Professor *Bede Morris* describes the development of the Australian school and how increasingly sophisticated methods

were developed for studying lymph and lymphatics. Dr. *P. McCullagh* describes recent application of these techniques in comparing artificially induced and naturally occurring immunological tolerance. Dr. *Norman C. Staub* describes the origin in Canberra of his study of lung lymphatics. Other papers deal with intestinal fat absorption and biliary phospholipids (Professor *W. Simmonds*; Professor *T. Heath*) and with plasma cholesterol and liver functioning.

The collected papers cover a wide field. Apart from those of lymph and lymphocytes and/or intestinal absorption, Professor *P. Korner* describes his recent work that leads to a clearer understanding of the causes of hypertension. He differentiates between volume factors and constrictor factors in the etiology of raised blood pressure. In analyzing the causes of essential hypertension he notes that 60% of cases are still unaccounted for, after allowing for 20% due to excess of sympathetic activity and 20% due to heightened salt sensitivity.

Professor *I. Darian Smith* describes his recent work on touch and texture. He describes how the identification and discrimination of textured surfaces is the central role of the sense of touch. To examine the processing of tactile information in the postcentral gyrus it becomes critical to know the representation of these textured surfaces in the cortical neural responses. *Darian-Smith* describes experiments extending over the past six months on Boris, a macaque monkey.