

coli. Dermatologists will be familiar with a related field from the writings of Cleaver, Howard-Flanders, Lehmann, the Setlows and others, not to mention our Editor. Touched upon in what might rightly be termed his prolegomenon, later further developed, is the interesting fact that, although "survival curves" are the microbiologist's bread-and-butter, why a bacterium suffers UVR death is debatable.

We will dwell a little longer on Chapter 5 by Pathak and others on melanin pigmentation. After summarizing former work on melanogenesis, they describe more recent EM findings on direct pigmentation, what they call "immediate tanning" or "IT." (In passing, in a review for *general* readership, is the use of this term with its connotations of summary corporal punishment or of chromatates and hides wise? The acronym, IT, in bygone male chauvinist days meant something else—and dates your reviewer's foibles.) These new observations, associating direct pigmentation with the dispersion of melanosomes within melanocyte, are interesting extensions of work with colchicine, cytochalasin-B, and vinblastine, e.g., by J. McGuire and G. Moellmann, also others in a recent Yale Pigment Conference. Some of these references are in Jimbow and Fitzpatrick (1975) on page 237 given as "in press," now out in the *Journal of Cell Biology* (65:481, 1975).

On skin color (Section 2.2), I think Pathak et al might have used another approach. They evidently equate skin color with *spectral reflectance*, for visual perception will not depend on colorless materials in the skin (urocanic and nucleic acid). The mechanism of skin color in the more usual psychophysiologic sense is, of course, obscure and little studied; see the works of G. H. Findlay and H. P. Wassermann.

The figures in this article are excellent (e.g., Fig. 2). Some text passages or statement I would have liked expanded, others pruned, but one cannot satisfy everyone always. Again, decisions on what literature to include and what not, may be difficult. Generally, their referencing to the literature is wide; but there are exceptions, e.g., on skin radiation transmission. A better *direct* key reference might have been Everett et al (*Photochem Photobiol* 5:533, 1966) as it refers to much earlier work. Massive tables, spread over more than two pages, a hallmark of oeuvres-de-Fitzpatrick, are always useful.

Now as to *Photochemical and Photobiological Reviews* as a whole, the general standard is high, the editorial planning well conceived, the contents varied. Evidently, there was little editorial tinkering, as some chapters, like Swenson's, are mostly lucidly written, others not. Printing and illustra-

tions are good, including electron micrographs, in spite of the lower-quality paper used compared with the halcyon days of *Photophysiology*. The index generally works well. The price is, I suppose, modest at about 8 cents per page. I observed few printer's errors, e.g., the obvious "NAD" for "DNA" (page 364). Less obvious is the error in the description of Rayleigh scattering (page 235), where the word "wavelength" has dropped out. Also there is probably a printer's omission in Table 2 (page 229), in its second entry, where pigmentation from UV-A is merely described as appearing visually within 48 hours. But these are minor matters. This reader liked reviewing this book. Academic dermatologic libraries must add this new series to their shelves. Ave Smith and Plenum!

Ian A. Magnus, M.D.
London

Dermatophilus Infection in Animals and Man,

D. H. Lloyd and K. C. Sellers (eds.). Academic Press, Inc., Ltd., London, 1976. (322 pp; \$17.25)

This book is a compilation of the papers presented at the Symposium of *Dermatophilus* held at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. It represents, for the first time, a reference source of information on *dermatophilus* in animals and man. Detailed data are presented from every country, i.e., Africa, Europe, America, the Middle East, and from every source where *dermatophilus* is seen. The information is presented simply and is very well documented. The papers on microbiology are excellent, providing a centralized source of information on all aspects of the microbiology and immunology of *dermatophilus*. The chapter "Dermatophilus Infections in Man" places in proper perspective the role of *dermatophilus congolensis* in man. This is a highly controversial issue and I believe that it is adequately taken care of in this section.

It is a good reference book on *dermatophilus* and it would be welcome as a starting point for any person interested in this subject.

Nardo Zaias, M.D.
Miami Beach, Florida

Pediatric Communicable Diseases, compiled by Carl Stilwalter. Micro-X-Ray Recorder, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, 1976.

This series of 33 2" × 2" color transparencies presents some aspects of some of the communicable exanthema. In addition, a number of diseases which might be considered in a differential diagnosis of these illnesses are presented. Unfortunately, the quality of the reproductions is only fair and the

information supplied on each illness is scanty. These problems limit its usefulness.

Martin G. Myers, M.D.
Iowa City, Iowa

Inflammatory Dermatoses. Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Washington, D. C.

This collection of 54 color transparencies without accompanying text covers a total of 42 different dermatologic diseases. The variety of subjects is great and includes such diverse entities as viral and bacterial diseases, several bullous diseases, connective tissue diseases, and panniculitides, as well as those dermatoses such as psoriasis, eczematous dermatitis, and lichen planus traditionally classified as inflammatory in nature.

The depictions of clinical entities in general are accurate, but the depth in which a given disease is treated varies. Although in most cases the lesions pictured are in typical, commonly involved sites of the body, this is not always the case. In addition, some of the entities illustrated only once in the collection are photographed at a distance, while others provide only a closeup view. The technical quality of the collection is quite variable. In some instances, fine morphologic detail is easily discernible, and color and depth are accurately portrayed. In others, overexposure, problems with focus, or lack of contrast from background coloration detract from the general standard of photographic excellence.

In summary, this collection of clinical slides, with its rather broad scope, is a generally worthwhile audiovisual aid for selective use in lecture support in the teaching of dermatology. Because of several of the factors mentioned, including lack of

text, I feel that its usefulness for self-instruction is limited.

Gabriel G. Gruber, M.D.
Boston, Massachusetts

Steroid Responsive Skin; Cutaneous Lesions of the Lower Extremities; Vesico Bullous Disease in Children. Slide sets. Schering Corporation, Kenilworth, New Jersey.

A careful review involving dermatology residents and senior staff at the Duke University Medical Center was carried out for Schering slide sets Nos. 112 (Steroid Responsive Skin), 127 (Cutaneous Lesions of the Lower Extremities), and 128 (Vesico Bullous Diseases in Children). It was our distinct impression, a unanimous one, in fact, that set No. 128 was of appreciably lesser quality than the other two. Although the sets in general did not have as good skin tones in the reproduction as one would like, they projected better than anticipated. Some particular slides of set No. 128, such as the dyshidrotic eczema (#03) and the close-up of nummular eczema (#11), did not have sufficient quality, in our opinion, to be retained in the set. Perhaps these could be improved, and the set in general made much more acceptable.

John P. Tindall, M.D.
Durham, North Carolina

Books and Audiovisual Aids Received

The following books and audiovisual aids have been received and may be reviewed in a subsequent issue:

Atlas der Nagelkrankheiten, Professors Dr. J. Alkiewicz and Dr. R. Pfisten, F.K. Schattauer/Verlag, Stuttgart, New York, 1976.

Frontiers of Matrix Biology, L. Robert Creteil, (ed). S. Karger, New York, 1976.