THE PHYSICAL ASPECTS OF RADIOISOTOPIC ORGAN IMAGING. K. G. Leach, London, British Institute of Radiology, 1976. 25 pp, $1.50.

In the first paragraph of the preface the author states, "This 'Introduction' covers only the basic aspects of the subject and as such, contains a number of simplifications; there are listed at the end a number of publications to which the reader may refer if more detailed information is required." The truth of the first part becomes strikingly apparent as one reads through the booklet. The editor states in the foreword that the publication is intended primarily for residents in training but will hopefully ". . . be of value to radiographers and to other technicians beginning to work in the field of nuclear medicine . . ." It is hard to see a significant role for a publication such as this in 1977. Ten years ago it would have made a contribution to the exiguous literature of the time. At present, however, there are several texts (in addition to the three listed in the bibliography) that cover the material at least as well and are suitable for the beginning student.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE PRINCIPLES OF DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASOUND. H. B. Meire and P. Armstrong. London, British Institute of Radiology, 1976. 13 pp, $1.40.

This booklet is more timely than its companion volume on radionuclide organ imaging (see previous review). The physical principles of diagnostic ultrasound are presented in a clear, concise (albeit sketchy) manner. The publication should prove useful to beginning students (physicians and technologists) as a preparation for more in-depth instruction in the subject.

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XERORADIOGRAPHY: UNCALCIFIED BREAST MASSES. John N. Wolfe. Springfield, Illinois, C. C. Thomas, 1977. 191 pp, illustrated. $28.00.

The author has drawn from his large collection of cases an extensive experience in the field of xeromammography to produce a new and useful companion volume to his first text on "Xeroradiography of the Breast." This book presents the author's approach to the differential diagnosis of non-calcified masses in the breast. Chapters discussing malignant lesions, the carcinomas, sarcomas, and malignant tumors of the reticuloendothelial system, are presented first. Succeeding sections cover the more common benign entities —intramammary lymph nodes, cysts, fibroadenomas, abscesses, hematomas, papillomas, lipomas, galactoceles, and skin tumors. A useful concluding chapter sums up the important differential diagnostic considerations and is also concisely presented in tabular form.

The xeromammograms are arranged with a case presentation format. This includes a history and some physical findings, the radiographic observations and an initial impression, followed by the final histopathology, when this confirmatory evidence was available, and concludes with a discussion. This makes it possible to study the material as teaching exercises, especially since Dr. Wolfe has interspersed an occasional case which illustrates the findings of the particular tumor covered in the chapter.

The copies of the xeromammograms are of excellent quality and therefore allow the reader to observe the same radiographic findings described by the author. There are 113 figures with most having a minimum of two views of the breast and some having up to six views to illustrate changes with treatment or with passage of time.

The book should be very helpful to the student wishing to acquire additional knowledge about the subject of xeromammography. It can also serve as a well-organized review for the practitioner who is interpreting mammography examinations.

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CHEMICAL CARCINOGENS ACS MONOGRAPH 173. Charles E. Searle, ed. Washington, D.C., American Chemical Society, 1976, 788 pp.

The editor was cognizant of the need for a single book that would describe our present knowledge of the chemistry, biology, and hazards of the known range of carcinogens in a form that would be valuable to chemists in many different fields. Unfortunately, this monograph fails to meet these exacting criteria, and despite the length of the book (788 pp), the editor himself recognizes gaps in the desired coverage.

Although the specialist will doubtless find the extensive coverage of some chapters, such as carcinogenesis by alkylating agents (162 pp), carcinogenic aromatic amines (96 pp), and N-Nitroso Compounds and related carcinogens (135 pp) very valuable sources, less specialized readers may find this work difficult to comprehend. The 16 chapters, each contributed by distinguished authors, are generally not completely self-contained descriptions of the subject material, and there is little continuity from chapter to chapter.

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