

**Land, W., and Dossetor, J. B.: Organ replacement therapy: ethics, justice and commerce.** Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer 1991. 530 pp., 52 figs. (ISBN 3-540-53687-6) DM 220.00

This volume on ethics, commerce and justice in organ replacement therapy presents the reports and discussions of a joint meeting of ESOT and EDTA/ERA, held in Munich in December 1990. It differs from the usual congress Proceedings in several aspects: in addition to members of the medical profession, ethicists, jurists, philosophers, and theologians from different parts of the world also actively participated in the meeting, and most of the contributions are presented in depth. The result is a fascinating book, illustrating the wide variation in ethical behavior within the medical profession, but also the conflicting views of the other professions concerned with ethics.

The contributions are grouped under five major topics – living organ donation, commerce in human organs and tissues, postmortem donation, allocation issues, and new frontiers – and each is followed by a discussion.

This book should be read and reflected upon by all those concerned directly or indirectly with organ transplantation.

P. Michielsen, Leuven

**Terasaki, P. I.: History of transplantation: thirty-five recollections.** Los Angeles: UCLA Tissue Typing Laboratory 1991. 704 pp., 450 figs. (ISBN 0-960-4606-7-5) DM 57.00

The recording of recollections made by those pioneers who made major contributions to transplantation development can be interpreted as an infallible sign that organ grafting has become an established procedure. Credit must be given to P. Terasaki for having gathered these 35 recollections. It was high time such a project was realized, since some of the early pioneers are no longer with us. Even though others may feel left out, the editor succeeded in covering most of the important developments in the field.

The often very specific description of personal experiences and reflections with some as yet unpublished details and anecdotes gives the reader a lively impression of the early days of transplantation. The self-portraits of the individual careers are brought to life by photographs, some of historical value. The sheer amount of scientific output of most of the authors is as impressive as their recognition, culminating in the Nobel Prize for medicine, awarded to five of the pioneers in transplantation. The fact that two Nobel laureates are not included in the book underscores the difficulty in selecting the individual contributors.

It is interesting to note that personal contributions to transplantation are sometimes seen quite differently by different authors. This human aspect, however, gives the reader a better understanding of individual personalities and makes the book worth reading.

Numerous typographical errors, such as on page 250, where transplantation is advanced by 20 years, or on page 236, showing Sir Roy in front of the Eiger North Face, now located in the Sivies range of mountains, do not diminish the pleasure of this book. It is a reference work for everyone involved in transplantation and, therefore, highly recommended.

R. Margreiter, Innsbruck