only a few of the interesting side paths along which Dr. Hudson has been tempted to wander. Fascinating as these meanderings are, and though they add much to the overall informativeness of the work, they do contribute significantly to its massive size and price; and one is often left wondering just what audience was in the author's mind. The work is clearly too detailed for undergraduates, and often it is not sufficiently detailed to be the complete reference book for the specialist pathologist. Perhaps the most appreciative readers will be cardiologists and physicians who will certainly find in these pages vivid accounts of the clinico-pathological relationships of the diseases discussed.

All who practice hospital histopathology will certainly wish to have these volumes on their shelves. The high spots are of course those aspects of heart disease that Dr. Hudson has made so much his own—congenital heart disease, valvular disease, and the cardiomyopathies in particular.

For a reference work of this size indexing is of prime importance and in this matter a little more space might have been allowed. The entry under 'tumours', for example, lists only a few sites and varieties and such specific types as angioma, glomus tumours, and myomas must be sought separately. It would be helpful too, and only mildly extravagant, to have the index printed in both volumes.

These criticisms are, however, of quite a minor nature and the author is certainly to be congratulated on a major achievement.

T. CRAWFORD

COMPARATIVE ATHEROSCLEROSIS Edited by J. C. Roberts, Jr., and R. Straus, with M. S. Cooper. (Pp. xxi + 426; 672 illustrations, including an Atlas of 416 in full colour. \$20.00.) New York, Evanston and London: Harper & Row. 1965.

The field covered by this volume is well described by its subtitle which is 'The morphology of spontaneous and induced atherosclerotic lesions in animals and its relations to man'. Fifty-six experimental pathologists, well known for their work on atherosclerosis, have contributed accounts of lesions in different classes of animals studied by a wide variety of techniques. The species studied are spread widely over the animal kingdom and include swine, birds, rodents, whales, fish, reptiles, canines, primates, and man. With such a large number of authors there is naturally considerable variation in quality of the chapters. Amongst the most useful is the section on atherosclerosis in swine, for evidence is accumulating that these animals are particularly suitable for experimental studies in this subject. They share with man not only his omnivorous dietetic tastes but also his tendency to develop intimal plaques from an early age, and the distribution of the lesions is not dissimilar from that in man.

The papers are profusely illustrated and the volume ends with a remarkable atlas of 416 illustrations in full colour. Although of varying quality, these give a clear impression of the lesions found and produced experimentally in this wide range of animals.

The volume is beautifully produced and is strongly

recommended to anyone who is contemplating an experimental study in arterial disease.

T. CRAWFORD

CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN MAN, 10th ed. An Official Report of the American Public Health Association prepared by the Committee on Communicable Disease Control, edited by John E. Gordon. (Pp. 288 + 11s.) New York: American Public Health Association. 1965.

This well-known manual has now reached its tenth edition and summarizes the community management of no fewer than 148 communicable diseases in 288 pages. The diseases are arranged in alphabetical order and for each there are brief sections on the identification and distribution of the infective agent, its mode of transmission, the incubation period of the disease and period of communicability, factors governing susceptibility and resistance, and the methods of control. Under each heading the statements are terse and direct and admirably suited for a manual clearly designed to be used to provide immediate guidance on the action to be taken in the face of almost any infective disease, whether as common as staphylococcal infection of the newborn or as rare—most people's experience—as North Asian tick-borne rickettsiosis. In addition to the descriptions of the diseases there is a useful introductory chapter of definitions.

The Ministry of Health and the Scottish Home and Health Department have been associated with the production of the manual, which is accepted by the Department as being generally applicable in Britain.

Inevitably the compression dictated by the need to keep the manual of truly pocket size leads to some statements that one would really like to see qualified and the standardized list of headings sometimes means that, for example, incubation periods are quoted when they are really quite unknown or hardly relevant. It seems a pity for a book that must be in constant use that the 288 pages should be held together by two staples rather than by proper binding. The index contains a large number of entries where one item is referred to numerous pages without any indication of their significance. Thus 28 page numbers are quoted against the word 'carrier', 29 for 'dog', and 20 for 'soil'.

But these are trivial criticisms to set against the immensely valuable distillation of information that the text represents, and at 11s. the new edition of this book is excellent value. It should be beside the telephone of all hospital infection officers as well as clinical bacteriologists and medical officers of health, and will be found equally valuable by general practitioners and by teachers.

THE COMMON COLD By Sir Christopher Andrewes. The Advancement of Science Series. (Pp. 187; 13 plates and 10 figures. \$4.50.) New York: W. W. Norton & Co. Inc. 1965.

This delightful book, written in Sir Christopher's inimitable style, sets out all that is known about the common cold. In the first chapter the author discusses the background to the problem of the common cold, the way in which symptoms are produced and why it is such

a baffling disease. The next few chapters deal with the early attempts to grow the virus in the laboratory at the Common Cold Research Unit at Salisbury, a long-term research project which was started in 1946 due very largely to the instigation of the author himself, and which today thrives as a research centre for the study of respiratory infections. The chapters on the isolation of the rhinoviruses, their properties, natural history, and relationship to other respiratory viruses are extremely well set out and give a clear picture of a complex problem. The final chapters are concerned with the control of colds and here the author makes no attempt to underline the difficulties.

This is a fascinating little book about a subject that must interest a great many people in one way or another whether they are engaged in research on the common cold or merely the victim of one. If the latter, they would be well advised to retire to bed and read this extremely interesting book.

J. A. DUDGEON

AUTOIMMUNITY AND DISEASE By L. E. Glynn and E. J. Holborow. (Pp. viii + 420; illustrated. 60s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1965.

This excellent and readable book provides a comprehensive account of clinical and experimental aspects of autoimmunity. Through their longstanding researches, the authors have developed a broad and critical approach to this growing field. They give a full account of the literature and present the significant contributions with clarity, indicating where experimental evidence is inconclusive, drawing together the known facts into constructive hypotheses and pointing to the directions in which research is moving.

The introductory chapters deal with theoretical aspects of autoimmunity, including modern views on antibody synthesis, immune tolerance, and the functions of the thymus. There follow chapters on systemic lupus erythematosus and rheumatoid arthritis with a particularly good account of experimental models. Individual chapters are devoted to autoimmune phenomena occurring in diseases affecting the nervous system, adrenal, thyroid gland, alimentary tract, kidney, liver, testis, and eye. The authors conclude with a discussion of autoimmune blood disorders and an account of the rheumatic fever problem. The book does not set out to provide a practical manual for the performance of autoantibody reactions but will prove to be essential reading for anyone interested in autoimmunity, not the least those actively engaged in its study.

IVAN M. ROITT

ISOENZYMES By J. H. Wilkinson. (Pp. x + 158; 22 figures; 30 tables. 50s.) London: E. & F. N. Spon. 1965.

Isoenzymes are a fashionable topic in clinical biochemistry. The importance of their study as a part of general enzymology continues to increase, but the high hopes that were originally entertained for their importance

in diagnosis have been disappointed. We do not have an absolutely characteristic alteration of serum enzymes for each disease nor do we have an absolutely characteristic alteration of isoenzyme patterns, though in many cases important additional information is given by their study. Estimation of multiple molecular forms of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, lactate dehydrogenase and cholinesterase at present add to the general diagnostic value of enzyme assay, and isoenzymes are known to exist of most of the enzymes assayed in the clinical laboratory.

Despite the great interest in the subject, few general review articles on isoenzymes had appeared, and until this volume, there had been no book. The gap is now well filled. Dr. Wilkinson, an enzymologist and clinical biochemist, who has made important personal contributions to our knowledge of isoenzymes, has written a lucid and well-proportioned account (with an excellent bibliography) of present knowledge of this developing subject. There is a general introduction, and discussions of methods of separation, detection and assay, followed by chapters on the isoenzymes of a number of different enzymes: lactate dehydrogenase, other dehydrogenases, the transaminases, the phosphatases, esterases, and some miscellaneous enzymes. Lactate dehydrogenase is rightly discussed in the greatest detail, because it is the enzyme of which the most knowledge is available of the chemistry, biochemistry, metabolic significance, and clinical correlation of its isoenzymes. The list of isoenzymes discussed is not comprehensive; the only important omission is of the isoenzymes of aldolase. I would also like to have had, in the section on techniques, some discussion of immunological methods which are now becoming so important. The illustrations of commercial electrophoresis apparatus are quite unnecessary.

The book is aimed with success at a general biochemical readership. It will be of great value to those engaged in chemical pathology, though pathologists from other disciplines and clinicians will find much in it of interest. The book is well indexed, production is excellent, but the price is high.

D. N. BARON

THE SMALL INTESTINE A Symposium of the 5th Congress of the International Academy of Pathology. Edited by A. C. Thackray and F. Avery Jones. (Pp. ix + 132; illustrated. 22s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1965.

This small paperback volume contains a record of the papers and subsequent discussion at a symposium held in London in June 1964. Although the meeting was held under the auspices of the International Academy of Pathology the subject matter is by no means restricted to pathology and indeed nearly half of the contributors are from other disciplines.

The opening paper deals with the normal development and anatomy of the small intestine and also considers certain congenital anomalies. It is followed by papers on electron microscopy and histochemistry, and a detailed review of histopathological changes and their