pendious literature on these subjects, as well as much practical aid.

A third large section on the demonstration of antigen-antibody interactions presents a selection of modern methods, ranging widely from measurement of antigen-binding capacity to analysis by passive cutaneous anaphylaxis; following this are five chapters on the application of immunological methods to the study of viruses, funguses, tissue components, protozoa, and helminths. Another five chapters deal in the fourth section with some methods in current use for studying cellular immunity and transplantation antigens, although with surprisingly little mention of the currently popular methods of measuring lymphocyte transformation. Finally there are some notes on the experimental study of allergic reactions and their mediators and a chapter on the demonstration of human reagins.

This is not a book for the uninitiated. For the experimenter who knows his way about the literature and the laboratory it will be a respected counsellor.

E. J. HOLBOROW

IMMUNOHISTOCHEMIE Edited by H. von Mayersbach. *Acta Histochemica*, suppl. 7. (Pp. 427; illustrated. £9 10s. 3d.) Jena: VEB Gustav Fischer. 1967.

This 1967 supplement to *Acta Histochemica* is, in effect, the proceedings of a symposium on immunohistochemistry organized by the German Gesellschaft für Histochemie and held in Nijmegen from 26 to 30 October 1965. Edited by H. von Mayersbach and preceded by a list of participants, it contains 45 papers and covers the whole field in a very comprehensive manner. Most of the papers are in the German language, six in English, and one in French.

Proceeding from a consideration of the structure of immunoglobulins (Ceróttini) papers are presented on the lytic function of complement, on antiserum production, the use of adjuvants, and the purification of proteins. Agar and immunoelectrophoresis are considered by Götz and related papers follow. The volume contains valuable papers by H. Harms (on the chemistry of labelling reagents) and by Arne Hansen (giving spectral data on fluorescent tracers). A second paper by this

author (with E. Hokenson) illustrates, in colour, the use of azo dyes for masking non-specific fluorescence. R. Leske describes the paper chromatography of fluorescent labels and the technique of fluorescein labelling is given by G. Rentsch. The many papers which follow deal with a variety of topics including ferritin labelling (Vogt), which cannot be considered out of place in view of the title of the Symposium, and unspecific staining (Mayersbach). There follows an excellent series of papers (Gabler, Trapp, Ploem, Otto, Rigler, Korting and Voss, and Reynen), lavishly illustrated with coloured photomicrographs and coloured and black and white line drawings, which deal with theoretical and technical aspects of fluorescence microscopy.

The volume concludes with a miscellaneous section containing, among other contributions, three papers on diagnostic uses of immunohistological techniques. This volume of proceedings forms an interesting addition to the literature of immunohistology and its chief value is, perhaps, that it brings together much information which is otherwise available only after patient search in the library.

I do not imagine that it will be widely read by English-speaking scientists, most of whom will probably remain unaware of its existence.

A. G. EVERSON PEARSE

THEORY OF CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY TECHNIQUE By Ronald A. McAllister. (Pp. vii + 185; 14 figures. 38s.) London: Butterworths. 1967.

This is a work for medical laboratory technicians, a field which stands in serious need of good texts. The one before us is not a good text.

The pattern of the book is disjointed. The title shows that the writer appreciates that the candidates need to understand the theory of their work. In practice what has resulted is largely another 'cook book'. Your reviewer had the impression that lecture notes, from what may have been excellent lectures, had been printed with little editing.

Slips are too numerous to merit individual attention, but why give the same table twice (Tables 35 and 36)?

ARTHUR JORDAN