
A lapse of seven years between editions might suggest a deceleration in the progress of immunofluorescence techniques but an increase of 40% (up to 245) in the pages of references, now less than comprehensive, shows the continued growth. The bibliography has always been a valuable feature of this book, and through it workers in many disciplines have found the immunofluorescence applications in their field.

There has been extensive revision, and topics only emergent in 1969 are now adequately treated. The technique of incident-illumination is well presented; there is discussion of filters for excitation with narrow-band blue or green light; and emphasis on the advantages, in some uses, of excluding UV wavelengths.

The growing applications of membrane fluorescence are dealt with; living microbes, cultured cells, neoplastic cells and, especially, the staining of surface markers on lymphocytes. Another new development is the study of the IgM response to viruses for discriminating recent from remote infections. On the controversy over the relative merits of immunofluorescence and immunoperoxidase techniques the last paragraph concludes that their sensitivities are comparable and their applications complementary.

Alas this book which every 'fluorescent immunologist' should own has now reached a prohibitive price.

A. H. TOMLINSON


ENT journals resemble each other closely and cover such a wide range of topics that one can only marvel that a surgeon who performs a commando operation may also be able to interpret audiometry or allergy testing results. The present journal is the mixture as before with one difference—the absence of those single case reports which pad out its contemporaries. Its editors hope to attract contributors from the continent.

Though head and neck pathology forms a large proportion of the routine material passing through a busy histopathology department, it is exceptional to have to turn to the speciality journals for enlightenment. Tumours are better dealt with in oncolgy journals, the granuloma in general pathology journals, and so on. There are exceptions, and in the present issue there is a useful article by Hyams and Michaels with the curious title of 'Benign adenomatous neoplasm (adenoma) of the middle ear'. For the rest, the journal is well produced (trust Blackwell for that) and has got off to a promising start. I would like the editor to take a decision early on, that the little précis on pathology that surgeons feel obliged to include in their articles be looked at by the critical eye of a professional pathologist and either ruthlessly excluded or made to look something other than a laborious piece of copywriting. This requires courage, not lacking in the men who float a new journal in these tempestuous times. Bon voyage!

C. A. PENNICK


This book contains a collection of 38 papers presented at the 5th International Symposium on Current Trends in Sphingolipidoses and Allied Disorders held at the State University of New York in October 1975. In a rapidly expanding field, the editors are to be congratulated on presenting a series of papers which genuinely give a comprehensive coverage of recent work in this field. The book contains the results of studies into the pathology, genetics, biochemistry and diagnosis of sphingolipidoses, mucopolysaccharidosis, leukodystrophies and allied disorders.

The topics covered include some of the newer disorders, such as fucosidosis, mannosidosis and adrenoleukodystrophy, enzyme replacement therapy and experimental models of inborn errors. The book is invaluable for details of the many analytical techniques available for the study of enzymes and metabolites in tissues and body fluids. Each paper has a useful reference list, and overall the book is well presented. It has much to offer the specialist but should not be regarded as a standard text for every laboratory.