cal changes in most parts of the eye and periorcular tissues; final chapters deal with tumours, systemic immune disorders, and therapeutic considerations. Classical views and recent papers are reviewed, and original work is incorporated. The figures include illustrative diagrams and immunological pathways while the photomicrographs and electron micrographs are excellent.

The authors are to be congratulated on their timely and valuable contribution which will surely be welcomed by ophthalmologists, ocular pathologists, research workers, and many others. The book will be of great assistance in teaching and will probably become the standard work in this specialized field.

D. R. BARRY

Atherosclerosis Drug Discovery. Edited by Charles E. Day. Vol. 67 in *Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology*. (Pp 467; illustrated; \$45.00.) New York: Plenum Publishing Corporation. 1976.

This volume records the proceedings of a symposium convened in 1975 by a pharmaceutical company to discuss means of identifying and evaluating drugs preventing or reversing atherosclerosis. The first four sections contain papers on the use of various animal models for this purpose, dealing respectively with primates, the rabbit, rodents, and birds. The final section is made up of papers on tissue culture experiments using human or animal smooth muscle or other cells, and *in vitro* perfusion studies of human or animal arteries.

The material presented confirms and extends what is already known of experimental atherosclerosis, namely, that certain species are unsuitable; that even in susceptible species there is strain variation, which is genetically mediated, in the response to dietary lipid supplements (one paper using inbred mice and classical breeding experiments concludes this effect is due to a polygenic system of inheritance); that even hyperresponsive strains show individual and seasonal differences in response; and that no single animal model is ideal. In relation to drugs, apart from known hypolipidaemic agents, no convincing evidence is adduced of a breakthrough in therapy for atherosclerosis.

This volume contains much detail of potential value of those actively engaged in this field but, at the price quoted, is likely to be of limited interest to the general reader.

K. W. WALTON

Fluorescent Protein Tracing, 4th edition.

By R. C. Nairn. (Pp xvii + 648; illustrated; £17.50.) Edinburgh, London and New York: Churchill Livingstone. 1976.

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

Clinical Otolaryngology and Allied Sciences,

Vol. 1, No. 1. Edited by P. M. Stell and A. D. Cheesman. (Pp. 102; illustrated. Published four times a year. Annual subscription £15.00.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, Melbourne: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1976.

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 specialty journals for enlightenment. Tumours are better dealt with in oncology journals, the granulomatous 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 copying. This requires courage, not lacking in the men who float a new journal in these tempestuous times. Bon voyage!

A. LEVENE

Current Trends in Sphingolipidoses and Allied Disorders. *Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology*, Volume 68.

Edited by B. W. Volk and L. Schneek. (Pp xvii + 612; illustrated; \$54.) New York and London: Plenum Press. 1976.

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, mucopolysaccharidoses, 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.

C. A. PENNICK