

'major' articles (pages 1–136) and 95 'short communications' (3 pages each, few references, and printed in camera-ready format). Thus the editors have not had a heavy task, except to subdivide the contributions into appropriate subject classifications. Nevertheless, they have come up with some oddities: for example, the (interesting) paper on the identification of the lipoxins is placed in the section on 'Mechanism of Action of NSAIDs', whereas a brief contribution on inhibition of neutrophil responses by NSAIDs is placed under 'Membrane Activation'.

The editors suggest that a multidisciplinary approach is expected for the study of inflammation, and I agree. This is reflected by the diverse subject

matter in the book. However, as might be expected, the coverage is very uneven such that some topics (especially those of French-speaking interest such as arachidonate metabolites, platelet-activating factor) get very good treatment, whereas others (e.g. kinins, serotonin, eosinophils, slow-acting anti-rheumatic drugs) are ignored almost completely, or totally. Nevertheless, the compass of inflammation research is vast, and the present volume has been published relatively quickly and does offer the reader a reasonable update in selected contemporary areas. It is thus a book for the inflammologist, not for the uninitiated.

Robin Hoult

Regulation of Carbon Partitioning in Photosynthetic Tissue

Proceedings of the 8th Annual Symposium in Plant Physiology

Edited by R.L. Heath and J. Preiss

Waverly Press; Baltimore, 1985

xxi + 374 pages. \$20.00 (£14.30 approx.)

This paperback book reports the papers presented at the Eighth Annual Symposium in Plant Physiology of the American Society of Plant Physiology, held in Riverside, California, in January 1985. The book has thus been published reasonably quickly. To achieve this, camera-ready presentation has been used, although the submitted papers have apparently been retyped to give a uniform presentation. Unfortunately, several glaring typographical errors have been left uncorrected.

The presentations are largely devoted to a discussion of starch and sucrose metabolism, subcellular localization and tissue partitioning. Special attention is paid to the roles of pyrophosphate and fructose 2,6-bisphosphate in

regulation of carbohydrate metabolism, and the major papers presented are useful reviews of this expanding area.

This volume should, for a short time, provide a useful set of reviews for graduate students about to enter the field of photosynthetic carbon metabolism. Although the book's value will only be transient, its cheapness should facilitate its use. One major problem is that no attempt has been made to present the discussions that took place after each paper. Discussion is the lifeblood of any conference and no proceedings volume is complete without it.

B. Halliwell