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E. Scholtyseck: Fine Structure of Parasitic Protozoa. An Atlas of Micrographs, Drawings and Diagrams. Springer-Verlag, Berlin—Heidelberg—New York 1979, 206 pp., 26 text-figures, 80 electron micrographs each explained in a corresponding line drawing. Price 80.—DM.

This atlas introduces the interested reader to the amazing complexity of the cell organization in parasitic protozoans with their unparalleled structural adaptations to the parasitic way of life. The book is the first of its kind not only because it is focused completely on parasitic protozoa only but also in its interesting idea to confront the reader with both the original electron micrograph and its schematized line-drawn reproduction. This also greatly helps to learn the art how to interpret the electron micrographs in general, an invaluable thing for the beginning electron microscopist.

Prof. Scholtyseck is to be congratulated for the courage with which he undertook this venture; in view of the immense amount of data on the ultrastructure of parasitic protozoa, he had necessarily to select what to include and what to omit in order to keep the book within reasonable size limit. He centered his attention on Apicomplexa, an area in which he is an authority and which is of great interest in many respects. However, an informative survey is also given on parasitic flagellates with examples of trypanosomes and of trichomonadids, on *Entamoeba* as representative of the rhizopods, on *Nosema* and *Pleistophora* as examples of micro-

sporidians and two pictures are given of *Pneumocystis*. Out of the total of 80 electron micrographs, 67 depict the representatives of Apicomplexa (including 3 pictures of gregarines, 49 of the order Coccidia out of which 7 micrographs are of haemosporidians and 14 pictures of piroplasmeans).

The book opens with a survey of protozoan classification followed by an introductory chapter on the salient features of the fine structure in the protozoa to be demonstrated with more detailed emphasis on developmental stages of the apicomplexans. In a succinct way, the author mentions also the life cycles and explains some of the nomenclatural problems. The chapter is supplemented by instructive diagrams to show the organization of the whole protozoan cells compiled from the numerous electron micrographs. The bulk part of the book is represented by the electron micrographs with very detailed legends.

The book is to be recommended to all students of protozoans ultrastructure, parasitologists and cytologists in general, it is instructive and stimulative.

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