

*International Review of Cytology*, edited by G. H. BOURNE AND J. F. DANIELLI, Academic Press Inc., New York, Vol. I, 1952. 368 pages, Price \$ 7.80.

The numerous series of "Advances", "Reviews" etc. which have appeared in the last decade have in these times of ever increasing numbers of highly specialized original papers been received by scientific workers with so much gratitude that it is scarcely necessary to give a special appraisal of the appearance of this new series. Nobody is capable of following the development of science outside his very specialized field by only reading the original papers. But moreover the authors of the latter are compelled to summarize their results in fewer and fewer words in order to find space in the leading scientific journals. Only in reviews have they the opportunity to publish general considerations concerning the field in which they are working.

Volume I of the *International Review of Cytology* is very interesting for biologists in general, including biochemists, and can therefore be highly recommended to readers of this journal. No other argument is needed to substantiate this opinion than a mere enumeration of the chapters: A. HUGHES, Some histological features in cell biology; C. L. HUSKINS, Nuclear reproduction; G. W. KIDDER, Enzymic capacities and their relation to cell nutrition in animals; L. G. E. BELL, The application of freezing and drying techniques in cytology; TH. ROSENBERG AND W. WILBRANDT, Enzymatic processes in cell membrane penetration; K. A. BISSET, Bacterial cytology; R. BROWN, Protoplast surface enzymes and absorption of sugar; A. B. HERSHEY, Reproduction of bacteriophage; R. J. GOLDACRE, The folding and unfolding of protein molecules as a basis of osmotic work; G. FANKHAUSER, Nucleo-cytoplasmic relations in amphibian development; M. M. SWANN, Structural agents in mitosis; M. SINGER, Factors which control the staining of tissue sections with acid and basic dyes; Lord ROTHCHILD, The behaviour of spermatozoa in the neighbourhood of eggs; W. MONTAGNA, The cytology of mammalian epidermis and sebaceous glands; L. H. BRETSCHNEIDER, The electron microscopic investigation of tissue sections; G. GOMORI, The histochemistry of esterases.

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*Recent Progress in Hormone Research* (The Proceedings of the Laurentian Hormone Conference), edited by GREGORY PINCUS, Academic Press Inc., New York, Vol. VII, 1952, 527 pages, price \$ 9.50.

This volume VII is the first of this series to be reviewed in *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta*. It maintains the high standard of the six preceding volumes. Though the field is somewhat more restricted than that covered by the new series, entitled "*International Review of Cytology*", also published by Academic Press Inc., in general the same may be said about this book as I have just stated in announcing the latter one. The volume under review contains 14 chapters under 4 headings: I. Pituitary Hormones, II. Sex Cycles, III. Aspects of Steroid Hormone Chemistry and Physiology, IV. Hormones and Metabolism.

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*The Enzymes, Chemistry and Mechanism of Action*, edited by JAMES B. SUMMER AND K. MYRBÄCK, Academic Press Inc., New York. Volume I, Part 2, 1951, X + 636 pages, price \$ 12.80; Volume II, Part 1, 1951, XI + 790 pages, price \$ 14.80; Volume II, Part 2, 1952, XI + 650 pages, price \$ 14.00.

After having reviewed Part 1 of Volume I of this work in this journal (*Biochim. Biophys. Acta*, 7 (1951) 337) little remains to be said in recommendation of these parts, with which this handbook of enzymology is completed. The high standard of the first part is fully maintained. In the course of the months that these books have been on my desk they have proved their utility and reliability. Many topics have been written by the leading men in the particular fields covered; for some other chapters other authors might have been invited with equal justification, but all who have contributed to the realization of the project appear to have been fully qualified for their task.