

chapter gives the author's conclusions regarding the evolution and development of connective tissues.

The author is a distinguished and respected research worker in the field of connective tissue who has made notable contributions, especially towards knowledge concerning the structures of polyanionic proteoglycans. He has written an excellent book that can be highly recommended to all those interested in connective tissues.

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*Synthetic Procedures in Nucleic Acid Chemistry*. Volume 2; Physical and Physico-chemical Aids in Characterization and in Determination of Structure: edited by W. WERNER ZORBACH and R. STUART TIPSON, Wiley, New York, 1973, x+674 pp., \$ 35.00.

This book is complementary to Volume 1 of this series, which collated important preparative methods in nucleic acid chemistry. The following physical methods are reviewed by experts in each field: determination of ionization constants, ultraviolet spectroscopy, gas-liquid chromatography, mass spectrometry, optical rotatory dispersion, infrared spectroscopy, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, X-ray crystallography, and chromatography. Each chapter contains a brief description of the theory of the method, but the emphasis is on application, and detailed descriptions of practical procedures are given. The literature is covered to 1968 or 1969.

There are some differences in format between volumes 1 and 2; for example, volume 2 is set in typewriter face and has no Author index. Misprints and inconsistencies of style are also numerous, particularly in the chapter on chromatography, although these are trivial and unlikely to mislead. Of physical methods not covered by this volume, electrophoresis is perhaps the most noteworthy omission, and could merit a short account in a future volume in conjunction with the section on chromatography. However, these are minor criticisms, and the editors are to be congratulated in again producing a work which is essential reading for nucleic acid chemists, besides containing much of interest for workers in allied fields.

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