

extremely low profile of the stage in Figure 2 is not necessary, and the inclusion of a groove in the aluminium shell of the collar to house a coil of perfusion tubing is possible. This allows preheating of perfused substances to the same temperature as the bath.

Figure 4 depicts the warmed tissue culture chamber. In this device, a warming block contains the heating element and thermistor, and transfers heat to the chamber when attached by 2 thumb screws. One warming block is used for a number of chambers, which are kept in a conventional incubator until needed on the microscope stage. The chambers may be sterilized, fully assembled, by autoclaving, and inoculated with cell suspension via the hypodermic needles which also serve as perfusion ports during electrophysiological experiments. The top and bottom of the chamber attach separately to the centre section to

allow removal of the top cover for electrode placement without disturbing the other seals of the chamber. Thin glass cover slips form the top and bottom of the tissue bath, ensuring excellent optical clarity and permitting the use of extremely high power, short working distance objectives.

Aluminium was selected as the material best suited for the fabrication of the devices described. It is easily machined. It has a very high thermal conductivity which allows efficient, even distribution of heat, and good electrical conductivity for shielding. Before final construction of each device, heat-shrinkable insulating tubing is placed around the heating element and BATH thermistor to insulate them from the shell which is grounded through the shield of the supply cable. Any remaining space is filled with silicone grease to ensure maximum heat transfer.

CONGRESSUS

France

17th International Congress of Physiological Sciences

in Paris, 18–23 July 1977

The first two days will be devoted to general lectures and during the last four days specialized meetings will take place. Further information can be obtained from the National Physiological Society of each country or by writing to the Congress Secretary: Prof. J. Scheerer, Secrétariat du 17. Congrès Int. des Sciences Physiologiques, U. E. R. Pitié-Salpêtrière, Cedex 1300, F-75300 Paris-Brune, France.

The Netherlands

The 7th European Food Symposium on product and process selection in the food industry

at Eindhoven, 21–23 September 1977

The symposium will be organized by the Food Working Party of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering in cooperation with the Dutch Society of Nutrition Science and Food Technology and IUFOST. Topics: 1. Food industry and society; 2. Product and process selection: procedures and techniques; 3. Examples of product selection based on economic considerations; 4. Examples of process selection based on economic considerations. Further informations by the Food Working Party, c/o Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, P.O. Box 90 04 40, D-6000 Frankfurt 90, Federal Republic of Germany.

PRAEMIA

Applications Invited for 1977–78 Johananoff International Fellowship for Advanced Biomedical Studies

The Johananoff Fellowship, awarded by the Mario Negri Institute Foundation Inc., New York, and the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research in Milan, Italy, amounting to \$ 15,000 for one year, was established in 1974 through the farsightedness and generosity of Mr. S. Johananoff, a distinguished international industrialist. The Johananoff Fellow will spend a sabbatical year at the Mario Negri Institute in Milan, free from laboratory duties, administrative and other routine, thinking out an Advanced Study critically reviewing achievements in one of the following fields: cancer chemotherapy and/or -immunology, cardiovascular pharmacology, neuropsychopharmacology or drug metabolism.

Candidates for the Fellowship should be non-Italian, mid-career scientists, internationally known for their work on one of the above topics. Applications should in-

clude a curriculum vitae, list of publications and outline of proposed studies, and must be received in Milan by 31 January 1977. Requests for application kits should be airmailed to: The Johananoff Fellowship Committee, Ist. di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri, Via Eritrea 62, I-20157 Milano (Italia). Tel. (02) 355 4546. Telex 37268 NEGRINST.

Prix Friedrich Miescher

A l'occasion du centième anniversaire de la découverte des acides nucléiques, la Société Suisse de Biochimie a créé un prix Friedrich Miescher, octroyé par l'Institut Friedrich Miescher (Société Ciba-Geigy, Bâle). Les candidatures (Suisse ou Suisses à l'étranger) doivent être adressées au Secrétaire de la Société Suisse de Biochimie: C. Bron, Institut de Biochimie, chemin des Boveresses, CH-1066 Epalinges.