

## BOOK REVIEWS

*Protides of the Biological Fluids*, Proceedings of the 9th Colloquium, Bruges, 1961, edited by H. PEETERS, Elsevier Publ. Co., Amsterdam, 1962, x + 373 pages, price Dfl. 45.—.

The ninth colloquium follows the pattern adopted in the previous colloquia. There are five general discussions: on the purity of proteins (by R. LONTIE), on automation (by W. H. MARSH), on polypeptide hormones (by R. SCHWYZER), on genetic aspects of protein metabolism (by P. S. CHEN) and on the transport function of serum proteins (by H. BENNHOLD).

Sixty three original contributions are grouped under the headings analytical methods, protein structure, protein turnover and metabolism, carrier function of proteins, proteins and genetics, and finally, isolated fractions. The problems of automation in clinical analysis receive considerable attention in the plenary lectures, the original papers and the round table conference.

*J. Chromatog.*, 9 (1962) 124

*Gas Chromatography Abstracting Service*, Preston Technical Abstracts Co., 1718 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Ill., U.S.A.

The abstracting service under review was started several years ago; however, it was not mentioned in a recent discussion of the literature of gas chromatography (*Nature*, 194 (1962) 822), nor did the reviewer learn of its existence till very recently, and thus we believe that a description is justified.

The Service abstracts all journal articles and books on gas chromatography immediately after publication and presents them on standard 5 in. × 8 in. Unisort punched cards. In 1960 the number of cards prepared was 1300 and in 1961 about 1600. The cards are supplied monthly to subscribers to the service at a rate of \$ 10 a month. This is further supplemented by newsletters mainly announcing courses in gas chromatography and new books.

The card system has the advantage that abstracts can be furnished much faster than is the case with a yearly volume such as *Gas Chromatography Abstracts*, but this is achieved at an incomparably higher price. The reviewer feels nevertheless that it should be subscribed to by all university libraries, as well as all industrial laboratories interested in this technique.

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