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Book reviews

Metal Ions in Biological Systems, Volume 3, High Molecular Complexes; ed. by Helmut Sigel, Dekker, New York, 1974, xiii + 289 pages, $ 22.75.

Reviews in the area of inorganic biochemistry must be welcomed by those who attempted to read into the subject a few years ago. The articles in the present volume are: Interactions of Metal Ions with Nucleic Acids (by Michel Daune), Metal Ion-Protein Interactions in Solutions (by Ragnar Österberg), Complex Formation between Metal Ions and Collagen (by Helmut Hörmann), The Interaction between Metal Ions and Ribonuclease (by Esther Breslow), The Role of Copper in Cytochrome Oxidase (by David C. Wharton), The Role of Copper in Hemocyanins (by Rene Lontie and Luc Vanquickenborne), and Monovalent Cations in Enzyme-Catalyzed Reactions (by C.H. Suelter).

The articles are well written, with good coverage or selection of material and provide references to reviews of related aspects. However, there are signs that the number of reviews in this area is beginning to lead to some duplication of effort on particular as well as central themes, and ground similar to that of the present volume is covered by articles in Structure and Bonding, Vols. 16 and 17 and in Inorganic Biochemistry, Vols. 1 and 2 (ed. C.L. Eichhorn). Organometallic chemists will find much interesting reading in this volume, but naturally enough, metal—carbon bonds feature only in the occasional mention of interactions with carbon monoxide.

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Advances in Nuclear Quadrupole Resonance; ed. by J.A.S. Smith, Heyden, London, 1974, xv + 434 pages, £14.50, $ 39.50, DM 119.00.

For the more general reader, this is a disappointing volume because it comprises the papers presented at The International Symposium on NQR (London, 1972) rather than the small number of review articles usually associated with 'Advances in. . . .' titles. The editor promises that future volumes will contain invited papers, so unless there is specialist interest in NQR, libraries may wish to commence holdings with Volume 2 when it appears.

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