

## Papers on Bio-materials

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In this issue, immediately following this editorial note, we are publishing a group of three papers concerned with materials of biological origin. The first explores the structure and properties of beetle shells which are in effect fatigue-resistant laminated fibre-reinforced structures; the materials scientist interested in composites has something to learn here. The second is concerned with locust tissue which has remarkable viscoelastic characteristics; these studies have lessons for people interested in flow characteristics of polymers. The third paper is concerned with the mechanical properties of several varieties of human tissue; the principal aim here is to draw readers' attention to a field of research which will be unfamiliar to many materials scientists.

By publishing this group of papers we wish to signal our editorial interest in this field, together with the related field of implant materials and, more generally, the materials aspects of biomedical engineering.

W. BONFIELD, *Executive Editor*

R. W. CAHN, *Chairman of Editorial Board*

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