

New Books

L.A. Witting, Book Review Editor.



Enzymes of Lipid Metabolism, Edited by S. Gatt, L. Freysz and P. Mandell (Plenum Press, New York, 791p. 1978, \$35.00).

In this book are reported the contents of 70 papers which were presented at a meeting on "Enzymes of Lipid Metabolism," which was held April 18-22, 1977, at the Mont Ste. Odile convent in Alsace, France.

The papers in the book are grouped according to the classes of enzymes and the types of reaction they catalyze. These are: (a) enzymes of the metabolism of fatty acids and neutral glycerides; (b) enzymes of the metabolism of glycerophospholipids; (c) enzymes of the metabolism of sphingolipids; and (d) enzymatic aspects of the lipid storage diseases.

There is a superb plenary lecture on enzymes metabolizing phospholipids by R.M.C. Dawson, and many other well known investigators presented papers, many of them excellent.

However, this book suffers, in my opinion, from the same shortcomings that seem to be unavoidable in reports on symposia. The papers are short, reporting in many cases data that has appeared elsewhere. Overall integration is difficult, if not impossible, in some of the sections with papers on widely differing subjects found side-by-side. There is useful information here, but the price of the book will probably limit its purchase to institutional libraries.

I wonder if it is not now time to seriously consider if the papers presented at every symposium should be published as expensive books?

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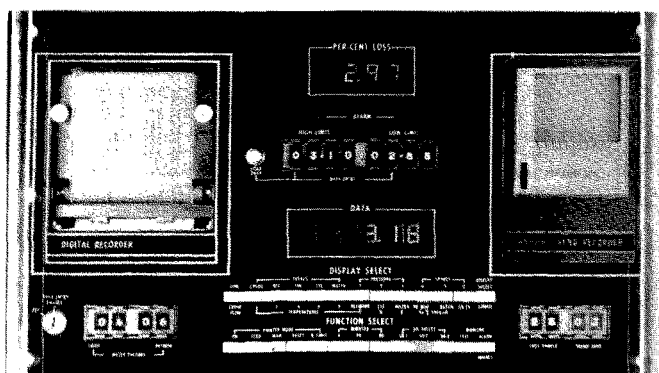
New Publications



Report of the Study Group on Vegetable Proteins in Foodstuffs for Human Consumption, in Particular in Meat Products (EUR 6026 of 1978), 147 p., Commission of the European Communities, US \$25, DM 52; FF 116, English pounds, 13.50, available in French and English immediately, in German, Italian, Dutch and Danish by the end of 1978; order from Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Boite Postale 1003, Luxembourg. ●

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