

the physiological significance of futile cycles, the ADP-ribosylation of elongation factor 2 by exotoxin A and diphtheria toxin, the protein-ADP-ribosylation system of mitochondria, and *E. coli* RNA polymerase modification after T-phage infection. In other chapters the phenomena of specific intracellular proteolysis as a possible regulatory device and the problems concerned with the exploration of enzyme regulation in situ have been debated. Finally lectures are included about histidine decarboxylase, regulation of chloroplast enzymes by light and the behaviour of enzymes in aging cells.

Needless to say, this report about the Fourth Meeting on Metabolic Interconversion of Enzymes as the foregoing volumes represents a milestone and provides valuable and solid knowledge about the newest results in this rapidly expanding field.

The reviewer is sure that this well-equipped book, well worth the money, will find wide circulation.

E. Hofmann, Leipzig

Demerly, Y.: Génétique et Amélioration des Plantes.
Paris: Masson 1977. 304 pp., 175 figs. Bound
160, -- FR

The book is divided into 3 sections: (1) Expression of the genotype in higher plants. After the almost ob-

ligatory quotation of phages and the bacterial operon, a chromosomal genetics of higher plants is presented. This is, as to be expected and necessary, mostly directed to population genetics. (2) Reproduction systems in higher plants. In this section also various systems of fertilization and ways of alternation of generations are treated. (3) Methods of plant breeding. Emphasis is put on a detailed description of classical selection methods and on the applications of polyploidy. It is a pity that in this voluminous section the hybridization by using haploid protoplast is treated with only a few lines.

This book, concentrating exclusively on the breeding of higher plants, gives, so far as the reviewer saw, no hints for the breeding of edible mushrooms or other important microorganisms for industrial application. The text is written prolix. It comprehends, as the author emphasized, numerous hypothesis and speculations, which are explained by figures and schemes. But no photographic documentation is included. Considering the fairly high price a better presentation (printing, paper quality, reproduction of illustrations) could have been expected. This book can hardly be expected to be read outside the french speaking area.

K. Esser, Bochum

Announcements

FEBS 12th Meeting Dresden, GDR, 2-8 July 1978

The Biochemical Society of the German Democratic Republic invites all members of FEBS to participate in the 12th FEBS Meeting. It is the aim of the organizers to provide optimal opportunities for scientific and social contacts for all participants, particularly for young scientists. The Scientific Program will include plenary lectures, symposia, colloquia, round table discussions and poster sessions.

Symposia

- 1 DNA-protein interactions
- 2 Gene expression
- 3 Protein structure and assembly
- 4 Structure and function of enzymes
- 5 Bioenergetics
- 6 Processing and turnover of proteins and organelles in the cell
- 7 Cyclic nucleotides in cell regulation
- 8 Regulation of secondary plant product and hormone metabolism

Colloquia

- 1 Technology of genetic engineering
- 2 Molecular immunology
- 3 Molecular diseases
- 4 Macromolecular changes and neuronal function
- 5 Technical enzymology
- 6 Investigation of biopolymers with scattering methods
- 7 Cytochrome P-450
- 8 Biochemical Education
- 9 Xenobiochemistry

For further information, write to: 12. FEBS Meeting Dresden, DDR-806 Dresden, P.O.B. 313

A Post-Congress FEBS-Symposium on "Antimetabolites in Biochemistry, Biology and Medicine"

will be held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, July 10-12, 1978, jointly organized by the Biochemical Societies of Czechoslovakia and of the German Democratic Republic, the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and the Central Institute for Molecular Biology of the Academy of Sciences of the German Democratic Republic.

The program of this symposium will include the following topics:

1. Antimetabolites as tools in enzymology
2. Consequences of analogue incorporation into nucleic acids
3. Aspects of selective antiviral action
4. Rational approach to the use of antimetabolites in combination cancer chemotherapy and in immunosuppression
5. New types of compounds, their synthesis and mechanisms of action

Information: Prof. J. Škoda, Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, Flemingovo 2, 16610 Prague 6, Czechoslovakia;
Prof. P. Langen, Central Institute of Molecular Biology of the Academy of Sciences of GDR, DDR-1115 Berlin, Lindenberger Weg 70.