

raphers have completed Data Input Forms and have submitted them to the national Sub-Editors. The Directory has been produced by a computer-controlled experimental printer from punched cards or magnetic tapes prepared by the Sub-Editors. All National Committees for Crystallography, and also all Sub-Editors for countries not represented

in the Union but included in the Directory, have been given the opportunity to compile block orders for copies at a specially reduced price. These orders had to be submitted before the Directory was printed, but many countries took this opportunity to secure low-priced copies of the Directory for the personal use of their crystallographers.

Notes and News

Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. The notes (in duplicate) should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the International Union of Crystallography (J. N. King, International Union of Crystallography, 13 White Friars, Chester CH1 1NZ, England).

Current Awareness Profile on Crystallography

A new publication entitled *Current Awareness Profile on Crystallography* is being published fortnightly by the Chemical Information Center, which is part of the Department of Chemistry of Indiana University. Each issue represents a computerized search of two consecutive issues of *Chemical Abstracts*, using the Chemical Abstracts Condensates tapes. Marketing restrictions on the use of these tapes currently prevent sales of the profile in some countries in Europe and elsewhere. The profile excludes all

references to citations from *Acta Crystallographica*, since inclusion of these citations would have increased the cost of the profile by about 40% and it was felt that most potential subscribers to the profile would scan *Acta Crystallographica* in any case. However, the profile does include citations from *Journal of Applied Crystallography*.

For subscribers in the USA the annual subscription is US \$37.50. Further information may be obtained from the Chemical Information Center, Department of Chemistry, Room 003, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47401, USA.

Book Review

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Book-Review Editor (J. H. Robertson, School of Chemistry, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, England). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.

Protein crystallography. By T. L. BLUNDELL and L. N. JOHNSON. Pp. xiv + 565. New York, San Francisco: Academic Press, 1976. Price £17.00.

Protein Crystallography is a book in the series *Molecular Biology, an International Series of Monographs and Textbooks*.

Because of its importance for modern biochemistry and biology, protein crystallography attracts workers from many disciplines, such as biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics. It is indeed of great importance, and a mark of real progress, that now for the first time a book is available which is comprehensible to workers from all these various disciplines.

This book gives excellent and comprehensive information about all aspects of protein crystallography, reflecting the steps usually followed in a successful protein crystal structure analysis. It provides first of all the necessary fundamentals of biochemistry, such as the principles of protein structure and both theory of and practical experience in crystallization of proteins. It then explains the principles

of crystallography and X-ray diffraction. Based on this background knowledge, the chapters that follow discuss the methods of protein crystallography from isomorphous replacement and data collection to the calculation and interpretation of electron density maps. The concluding chapters give brief surveys of neutron diffraction, γ -ray resonance, electron microscopy and the achievements of protein crystallography.

Besides clear and exact descriptions of all these problems each chapter conveys the fascination of the methods and results of modern protein crystallography. Therefore the book can be used by students and scientists as an introduction to protein crystallography. It is especially useful for those who intend to do research in this field, and for the specialist it is a detailed review of the techniques used up till now in protein crystallography.

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