

**BIOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF METALS IN THE ENVIRONMENT.** H. Drucker and R. E. Wildung, eds., CONF-750929, Springfield, Virginia. National Technical Information Service, 1977, 682 pp, \$10.50 (softbound).

Although the field of nuclear medicine is not directly concerned with the biologic effects of metals, these can affect the biologic response to radiation, making some knowledge of these effects valuable. This book presents papers given at the 15th Hanford Life Sciences Symposium, held at Richland, Washington, in the fall of 1975, sponsored jointly by the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) and Battelle, Pacific Northwest Laboratories.

The book includes 49 articles, preceded by a short preface, and followed by a detailed subject index. Each paper begins with a good abstract and closes with extensive reference lists. The articles are on a wide range of topics and are generally of good scientific quality. There is no attempt to group the papers under topic headings, which would have been a valuable aid to the reader. An excellent article entitled "Metals: We Know So Much and We Know So Little" by Arthur Furst on p 426, could have usefully served as an introduction to the volume. The last article entitled "Problems in Assessing Metal Effects: A Review with Commentary on the Symposium" by Burton E. Vaughan, does a good job of summarizing the overall findings.

The value of this book is the collection in one place of a number of highly interesting studies of the biologic effects of and interactions with a wide variety of metals. The volume suffers from the fact that the symposium was held in 1975, and consequently the results are now 3 years old, a common fault of symposium volumes. This book can be

read with interest by those concerned with the biologic implications of metals in the environment.

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**ANNUAL REPORT 1976: PROGRAMME RADIATION PROTECTION.** Commission of the European Communities EURATOM. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg Publication EUR 5711, 623 pp, \$34.40.

This volume contains the annual progress reports from contractors for a new multiannual (1976-1980) program on radiation protection sponsored by the Commission of the European Communities. Approximately 105 reports are included, organized under the following headings: (1) dosimetry, (2) evaluation of radiation risks and radioactive contamination of the environment, (3) hereditary effects, (4) short-term effects, (5) long-term effects, and (6) report of the biology group at Ispra, Italy. The work reported is in various stages of completion. Although the reports are brief and many do not include corroborative data, this volume should be useful for acquainting investigators in radiation protection and radiation biology in the United States with the current activities of the many European research groups participating in this program.

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#### BOOKS RECEIVED

The receipt of the following books is acknowledged:

*Lungendiagnostik mit Radionukliden: Physiologie, Pathophysiologie, Klinik.* J. Lutgemeier, H. Kampmann, N. Konietzko, W. E. Adam. 192 pp, illustrated. Stuttgart, New York, Gustave Fischer Verlag, 1977.

*Origins of Human Cancer* (3-book set), H. H. Hiatt, J. D. Watson, J. A. Winsten, eds. 1960 pp, illustrated. Cold Spring Harbor, New York, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1977. \$45.00

*Liver Scans, Clearances, and Perfusions. The Development of Nuclear Hepatology.* Marshall Brucer. 155 pp, illustrated. Huntington, New York, Robert E. Kreiger Publishing Co., 1977. \$14.50.

*SI Units in Medicine—An Introduction to the International System of Units with Conversion Tables and Normal Ranges.* Herbert Lippert, H. Peter Lehmann. 211 pp. Baltimore, Urban & Schwarzenberg, 1978. \$14.50.

*A Review of Information Processing in Medical Imaging.* Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference Held at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee June 27-July 1, 1977. A Bertrand Brill, Ronald R. Price, William J. McClain, and Mildred W. Landay, eds. 657 pp, illustrated. Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (Biomedical Computing Technology Information Center), January 1978. Printed Copy \$19.00; Microfiche \$3.00.