is known about megakaryocytopoiesis and platelet turnover. Published works have been summarized and some new data presented. The book should be of interest to investigators or teachers of platelet kinetics and to those interested in hematopoiesis in general. Investigators may find that the descriptions of methods, part VI of the book, will save them some time in the library.—Shirley Ebbe, M.D.


J. B. Watson has been quoted as declaring that hemoglobin is not the center of the universe. Considering the number of investigators who devote their efforts to studying this protein, one might guess that a good proportion of the scientific community disagrees with Dr. Watson. In any event, in this age of Einsteinian space, the center depends upon the point of view. Thus, although some of the topics in Hemoglobin Synthesis have recently been reviewed elsewhere, interest in hemoglobin is great enough and progress in the area swift enough to merit additional coverage now.

This book is a new volume in the Series Haematologica. It contains seven short reviews of recent advances made in the understanding of several aspects of hemoglobin biosynthesis. The articles are concise and well written by recognized authorities. In general the reviews are not exhaustive, are noncontroversial, and describe work done by the authors themselves. Rifkind, Terada, and Marks discuss the ontogeny of hemoglobin synthesis in the mouse. Williamson and Morrison, and Lingrel and his associates, describe their experiments on the isolation of the messenger RNA for globin. Wilson presents the experiments that he and Dintzis performed to show that the polypeptide chains of globin, like the proteins of Escherichia coli, are initially synthesized with a methionine residue at the amino terminal position which is subsequently removed. Winterhalter and Glatthaar speculate on the possible role of some minor hemoglobin fractions and partially heme-depleted species as intermediates in hemoglobin synthesis. The problem of hemoglobin synthesis in thalassemia (Bank and Marks) and the hemoglobinopathies (White) is covered in two papers.

Considering the speed of accumulation of new knowledge in some of these areas, the reviews are reasonably up to date. References run to the end of 1971.

While primarily suitable for those working in or already familiar with the area of hemoglobin synthesis, thalassemia, and the hemoglobinopathies, this volume does provide a readable though technical resume of the present knowledge of hemoglobin synthesis for other interested hematologists.

—Ronald F. Rieder, M.D.

NEWS AND VIEWS

RED CROSS SYMPOSIUM

The Fifth Annual Red Cross Scientific Symposium of the American National Red Cross on The Human Red Cell in Vitro will be held on May 7–8, 1973 in Washington, D.C. Attendance is by invitation only. For further information, contact the American National Red Cross, Blood Research Laboratory, 9312 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
OF HEMATOLOGY

The Second Meeting of the European and African Division of International Society of International Society of Hematology will take place in Prague, Czechoslovakia, August 27–29, 1973. Program: Etiology, pathogenesis, and treatment of leukemia; Hemacoagulation and fibrinolysis; Immunology of leukocytes and transplantation problems; surface structures of lymphoid cells and their function. A symposium on human red cells blood group, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Dr. Jansky, will be held during the Congress. For information apply at the Czechoslovak Medical Society J. E. Purkyne, Sokolská 31, Praha 2, Czechoslovakia.