combination of various mutants by bacterial conjugation which led JACOB and MONOD to their remarkable concept of gene expression. These experiments, like those of JACOB and WOLLMANN, proved the existence of a cytoplasmic regulating factor. The model proposed by JACOB and MONOD postulates that three different genes are necessary for the regulation of a particular enzyme: a) a structural gene which produces the so-called messenger RNA and which contains the information for the structure of a particular enzyme, b) a repressor gene producing (normally) a repressor which blocks the function of the structural genes, and c) an operator gene closely linked to the structural gene which is responsible for taking up the message from the repressor gene. This ingenious concept takes into account all the known phenomena relating to the regulation of β-galactosidase synthesis in *E. coli*.

That, despite all these important discoveries we are only just beginning to understand biological regulations, is apparent from one of the more recent contributions emanating from the Pasteur Institute, i.e. the concept of allosteric transition. MONOD, CHANGEUX, and JACOB (1963) draw attention to the fact that many proteins with a regulatory function are built of subunits. These complex molecules are subject to configurational alterations by their interactions with small molecules. These, in turn, are accompanied by a change in the specific activity of the protein. This unified concept of macromolecules undergoing subtle modifications in response to small molecular regulators is applicable to enzymes as well as to the repressor whose existence is still only inferred. It is to be expected that it will soon find as wide an application as the many other discoveries of the three Nobel laureates and so enable scientists to delve even deeper into the mysteries of life.

MATTHYS STAEHELIN

CONGRESSUS

USA

Third International Biomagnetic Symposium

University of Illinois College of Pharmacy, Chicago
March 22–23, 1966

Abstracts – which will be edited and printed in lieu of proceedings – should be mailed to Dr. M. F. BARNOTHY, University of Illinois, 833 South Wood Street, Chicago, by December 1, 1965. Abstracts should be 900 to 1000 words long, and should describe the research in detail. One drawing or graph can be submitted with each.

The printed abstracts will be mailed to all preregistered participants in the Symposium one month before the meeting, to enable thorough preparation for discussion.

Those interested in the Symposium may write to Dr. BARNOTHY or to DANIEL J. HOPPE, extension specialist in short courses and conferences, 116 Illini Hall, University of Illinois, Champaign.

USA

Sixth International Symposium on Condensation Nuclei

Albany (New York) and University Park (Pennsylvania)
May 9–14, 1966

For further information concerning attendance and participation in the symposium, address: Chairman of the Organizing Committee, Office of the Director, ASRC-SUNY, Post Office Box 7112, Albany, New York, 12224 (USA).

Etats-Unis

7e Conference internationale sur la Transplantation

New York, le 14, 15 et 16 Février 1966

organisée par l'Académie des Sciences de New York. Président John Marquis Converse.

Pour tous renseignements s'adresser aux Secrétariats:

pour les Etats-Unis: Félix T. Rapaport, New York University Medical Center, 550 First Avenue, New York 16 (N.Y.), USA.

pour l'Europe: Jean Dausset, Hôpital Saint-Louis, 2, Place du Docteur Fournier, Paris 10e.

Poland

Third Meeting of the Federation of European Biochemical Societies

Warsaw, April 4–7, 1966

As indicated in the Preliminary Programme of the Meeting, the main events are as follows: (1) Symposium, entitled *The Structure and Function of Genetic Elements*, arranged by D. SHUGAR (Warsaw). (2) Colloquium, entitled *The Biochemistry of Blood Platelets*, arranged by E. KOWALSKI (Warsaw) and S. NIEWIAROWSKI (Bialystock). (3) Colloquium, entitled *The Biochemistry of Mitochondria*, arranged by E. C. SLATER (Amsterdam) and organized by L. WOJTCZAK and Z. KANIUGA (Warsaw).

Secretariat: Polskie Towarzystwo Biochemiczne, Freta 16, Warsaw 40 (Poland).