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B O O K   R E V I E W

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REPORTS ON PROGRESS IN POLYMER PHYSICS IN JAPAN

The publication of the Reports on Progress in Polymer Physics in Japan was initiated in 1958 by Professor Syoten Oka, when he was the Head of the Research Group for Polymer Physics supported by a grant for fundamental scientific research from the Ministry of Education. Since then the Reports have been published every year and the 37th volume will appear in 1994.

The Reports are compiled as an annual summary of the work carried out in Japan on polymer physics and related fields such as biophysics and biorheology. Each paper consists of four pages and includes the main results of research for the last year of the contributor. The reader can get an overview of the research activities in polymer physics and biorheology in Japan for the last year.

Since 1992, invited review papers have been included. These papers can be some twenty pages long and describe a review of the long-term research of a senior scientist. The recollection of research carried out by distinguished retired scientists is also invited.

The 36th volume in 1993 includes two invited papers and 214 contributed papers. The areas of study and the number of papers are as follows: Solutions, Melts and Gels (27), Crystals (21), Structure of Solids (12), Thermal Properties (16), Mechanical Properties (7), Electrical Properties (13), Optical Properties (25), NMR and ESR (13), Radiation Effects and Polymerization (4), Polypeptides (13), and Biopolymers and Biological Systems (63).

The last section on Biopolymers and Biological Systems includes many papers related to hemorheology and biorheology such as sedimentation of erythrocytes aggregates and viscoelastic properties of blood vessels, and thus attracts interest of readers of Clinical Hemorheology and Biorheology.

The 35th volume in 1992 was dedicated to the late Professor Syoten Oka, who founded the Reports. He was a pioneer and leader in the field of polymer physics and biorheology in Japan. His great influence is obvious in the large output of papers in hemorheology and biorheology, to which he dedicated his entire life.

The Reports on Progress in Polymer Physics in Japan (RPPPJ) is published in the fall of every year by the publisher Gokujutsu Bunken Fukyukai (Association for Science Documents Information), c/o Tokyo Institute of Technology, Oh'okayama, Meguro-ku, Tokyo 152, Japan. The back issues are also available.

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