

NOTICE

REPORT ON THE VIIIth SYMPOSIUM OF THE POLISH GENETICS SOCIETY ŁÓDŹ 1983 SEPTEMBER 14-16

The VIIIth Symposium of the Polish Genetics Society was held in Łódź, September 14-16, 1983. About 250 persons including invited geneticists from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary and Great Britain took part in its sessions.

In conformity with the character of the Polish Genetics Society its participants represented different genetic specialities, i.e. molecular, medical, as well as plant and animal genetics. The program of the Symposium was carried out during plenary, symposium and poster sessions. The main topics discussed in plenary sessions were: "Genetic mechanisms in the development of neoplastic processes" — prof. J. Steffen, Warsaw; "Mobile genome elements" — docent E. Rakowicz-Szulczyńska, Poznań; "Prenatal diagnosis — cytogenetic problems and future development" — dr. M. Ferguson-Smith, Glasgow, Great Britain; "Advances in Human Gene Mapping" — prof. I. Wald, dr. E. Fidziańska, Warsaw; "G6PD-deficiency in Bulgarian population" — prof. M. Tzoneva, Sofia, Bulgaria and "Chromosomal mosaicism — some cytogenetic and clinical aspects" — prof. V. Izaković, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia.

Symposium sessions were devoted to the following topics: "Structure and function of DNA, chromatin and chromosome", "DNA endoreplication during the development and differentiation of plant cells", "Oncologic genetics", "Human cytogenetics", "Clinical genetics", "Mutagenesis" and "Advances in breeding cultivated plants".

In session "Advances of genetics in breeding cultivated plants", the prospects of applying genetic engineering methods in agriculture (prof. Z. Lorkiewicz, Lublin) and the role of genetics in modern plant breeding (prof. B. Kubicki, Warsaw) were considered. A number of interesting papers concerning plant cell culture were presented in that session. The leading report "In vitro tissue and cell culture prospects" was delivered by dr. E. Bartkowiak, Warsaw. The session on "Mutagenesis" discussed actual problems of environmental mutagenesis (dr. J. Bogajewski, Poznań) as well as results of many experiments on mutagenicity of plant protection chemical means.

In session dealing with "DNA, chromatin and chromosome structure and function", such significant problems of molecular genetics as "Biological function of left-handed Z-DNA (dr. J. Kłysik, Łódź), "Osmium-induced alternation in DNA structure" (dr. M. Vojtiskova, Brno, Czechoslovakia), "DNA transcription and processing of RNA transcript in Eucaryotes" (docent W. Filipowicz and dr. M. Konarska, Warsaw) were discussed.

The main topic of the session "Oncological genetics" were studied on SV40 virus structure and on the virus share in neoplastic transformation (dr. J. Sołowska, Gliwice) and application of cytogenetic methods in studied of neoplastic diseases (docent J. Limon, Gdańsk).

The session "Clinical genetics" was of interest to physicians. The report on the "Role of major histocompatibility complex genes in the regulation of immune response" was presented by docent J. Nowak (Poznań). Some papers were concerned with prenatal diagnosis, genopathy and chromosomopathy, e.g. Carrier diagnostic and genetic counselling in Hunter's disease (prof. A. Knapp et al., Geifswald, FRG), 21-hydroxylase-deficiency: HLA — typing and prenatal diagnosis (docent L. Pelz et al., Rostock-Berlin, GDR). Various forms of inborn deficiency of lysosomal beta-galactosidase (dr. B. Czartoryska, Warsaw) and many others.

In plenary and symposium sessions totally 58 reports and papers were presented. The poster session covered 101 papers concerning human genetics, clinical genetics, human, animal and plant

cytogenetics, developmental genetics, molecular genetics, mutagenesis, animal and plant genetics.

The works presented at the Symposium will be published in that and following issues of *Genetica Polonica*.

At the Symposium the General Assembly of the Polish Genetics Society took place. At the Assembly the activity of the Society since the last Symposium in 1978 in Poznań was reported. The elections of new Authorities of the Society took place. Prof. dr. Waclaw Gajewski from the Department of Genetics, Institute of Botany, Warsaw University' was elected President of the Society and Chairman of the Main Board. It was decided that the next IXth Symposium of the Society will be held in 1986 in Gdańsk and will be organized by the Gdańsk Branch of the Society.

Docent Dr. *H. Hübner*
Chairman of the Organizing Committee
of the VIIIth Symposium of the Polish Genetics Society