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THE YEAR BOOK
of
DERMATOLOGY

(1967-1968 YEAR BOOK Series)

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INTRODUCTION

The leading article this year, "Melanin 1968: Some Definitions and Problems," has been prepared by three recognized authorities, Doctors Jiri Duchon, Thomas B. Fitzpatrick and Makoto Seiji. Each contributor has both M.D. and Ph.D. degrees and each has devoted most of his research efforts to the melanocyte. Their comprehensive review is a timely and thorough analysis of current knowledge about this cell and its amazing products—melanin, melanoprotein and melanosomes. Of necessity, a review of this type, dealing principally with chemical composition and enzymic regulation, is considerably more technical than any previous leading article of the YEAR BOOK OF DERMATOLOGY. Yet, the melanocyte, like the keratinocyte, is the dermatologist's cell, and we should make every effort to become completely conversant with the intricate and intimate details of its structure and function.

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