ON THE PRIMARY SITE OF NUCLEAR RNA SYNTHESIS

A Retraction

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In 1959, we published in the predecessor of this journal a Brief Note, entitled: "On the Primary Site of Nuclear RNA Synthesis" (2), in which we reported evidence in support of the view that all nuclear RNA (including nucleolar) is synthesized in the nonnucleolar regions of the nucleus of human amnion cells. Shortly thereafter, Sisken and Kinosita (3), Amano and Leblond (1), and others offered strong evidence for the conclusion that "chromosomal" RNA is synthesized in the nonnucleolar parts of the nucleus, and that nucleolar RNA is synthesized in the nucleolus. In the face of this contrary evidence, we repeated our experiments (in 1961) and were forced to conclude that our earlier report was erroneous, and that Sisken and Kinosita, Amano and Leblond, and others who contend that nucleolar RNA is synthesized in the nucleolus are correct.

We publish this Note at this time because in the years that have passed since our original publication, and even now, the 1959 note has been quoted as a worthy piece of evidence. We ask to be spared the further embarrassment of having that earlier work cited in the reputable literature, and we hope we can spare other authors the labors of attempting to rationalize our aberrant data.

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