

# 50 Years Ago ...

*Angewandte Chemie International Edition* was first published in 1962, the mother journal first in 1888. In this monthly flashback, we feature some of the articles that appeared 50 years ago. This look back can open our eyes, stimulate discussion, or even raise a smile.

**H**eteroatom chemistry was “in vogue”: The reactions of alkylboron compounds were the subject of two Communications in Issue 9/1962. R. Köster and G. Benedikt reported how the exchange reaction of *B*-ethylboraindane or *B*-ethylboratetralin with aluminum trialkyl compounds resulted in aluminum heterocycles. The products exist as dimers in solution and as colorless crystals in the solid state. P. Binger and R. Köster reported on the preparation and properties of cyclopropylboranes, and described how 1,1-bis-(dialkylboryl)-3-chloropropanes react with sodium tetraalkylboron compounds to form the desired products. Tricyclo-

propylborane was also prepared, and could undergo an exchange reaction with triethylaluminum to form cyclopropylaluminum species.

The reaction of pyrilium salts with triphenylphosphine derivatives was reported to lead to substituted aromatic compounds. As described by G. Märkl, the initial reaction resulted in a ring opening to form a vinylogous phosphineacetylmethylene compound, which then underwent an intramolecular Wittig reaction to form a substituted benzene derivative.

F. Hübenett et al. reported on a simple synthesis of isothiazole ring systems, which were formed by passing propylene, ammonia, and sulfur dioxide over catalysts such as activated aluminum oxide. This method contrasts that reported in Issue 6/1962 by F. Wille et al., who reacted sodium acrolein 3-thiosulfate or acrolein 3-thiocyanate derivatives with liquid ammonia to produce isothiazole rings.

[Read more in Issue 9/1962](#)