### **Announcements**

AG Biotech International: Business Opportunities for the 90s, *October 10–12*, 1990, Milan, Italy. For information, contact Organizing Secretariat, Fondazione Giovanni Lorenzini, Via Monte Napoleone, 23, 20121 Milan, Italy. Tel: 02-76-00-22-67. FAX 02-78-15-11.

IGT's Third International Symposium on Gas, Oil, Coal, and Environmental Biotechnology, *December 3–6*, 1990, New Orleans, Louisiana. For information, contact Dr. Cavit Akin, Associate Director, Biotechnology Research, Institute Gas Technology, 3424 South State St., Chicago, IL 60616. Telephone 312-567-3724. Telex 25-6189. FAX 312-567-5209.

Seventh International Conference on Surface and Colloid Science, *July* 7–12, 1991, Compiegne, France. For information, contact Secretariat of the 7th ICSCS, c/o Wagons-lits Tourisme, B.P. 244, F-92307, Levallois-Perret cedex, France; or, Professor M. Clausse, Chairman of the 7th ICSCS, Div. de Biomecanique et Instrum., U.T.C./Dept. de Genie Biologique, B.P. 649-60206 Compiegne cedex, Rue P. de Roberval Compiegne Royallieu, Compiegne, France. Telephone 44-20-99-60. Telex UNITECH 150110F.

#### Keystone Symposia

For information on any of the following symposia, contact Keystone Symposia, 2032 Armacost Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025 Telephone 213-207-5042. Fax 213-207-2397. Telex 495012.

Transgenes, Development and Disease

January 12-18, 1991, Tamarron, Colorado

Gene Regulation by Antisense RNA and RNA

February 2-7, 1991, Frisco, Colorado

Molecular Evolution of Introns and Other RNA Elements

February 2-8, 1991, Taos, New Mexico

**Translational Control** 

February 22-March 1, 1991, Lake Tahoe, California

Manipulation of the Avian Genome

March 21-26, 1991, Lake Tahoe, California

Frontiers of NMR in Molecular Biology-II

April 8-14, 1991, Keystone, Colorado

Proteolysis in Regulation and Disease

April 8–14, 1991, Keystone, Colorado

Protein Folding, Structure and Function

April 8–14, 1991, Keystone, Colorado

Regulation of Transcription Elongation and Termination

April 19-25, 1991, Keystone, Colorado

#### To the Readers of

# **Applied Biochemistry and Biotechnology**

Today I received a letter informing me of the recent death of Professor Georg Manecke. Georg was a personal friend and a gentle person I had known for many years. He was one of the early pioneers in the field of Immobilized Enzymes, having first contributed to this technology in the early 1950s. He will be missed by his friends. The obituary that follows was submitted to me by one of his many friends and coworkers, Professor G. Kossmehl. It is published here in its entirety.

Howard Weetall Editor-in-Chief

## Georg Manecke

Berlin has lost a great scientist of international rank. Professor Dr. Ing. Georg Manecke died on January 6, 1990. Professor Manecke was born on June 13, 1916, in Pleskau, Lithuania, where he spent most of his younger years. In 1935, he began his chemistry studies at the Technische Hochschule in Berlin-Charlottenburg. A position with the chemical firm Schering, Berlin followed; then, in 1949, he joined what is now known as the Fritz-Haber-Institut of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft. In 1954, he qualified as a lecturer at the Freie Universitaet Berlin, and, in 1956, built up and expanded the specialized area of Macromolecular Chemistry at the Institut fuer Technische Chemie at the Technische Universitaet Berlin, where he became a Distinguished Professor. In 1961, he was appointed associate Professor of Macromolecular Chemistry at the Freie Universitaet; in 1963, he became an external member of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, and, in 1964, he was appointed Professor (in ordinary) and Director of the Institut fuer Organische Chemie at the Freie Universitaet Berlin. In spite of several creditable summons from the Universities of Munich and Mainz, Professor Manecke declined these positions and stayed faithful to the Free University of Berlin through all the years.

Until his retirement in 1984, Professor Manecke worked successfully on the overlapping subjects of organic chemistry and macromolecular chemistry, as well as in biotechnology.

During his work on reactive polymers, Professor Manecke managed to join enzymes to polymers in 1955, thus producing the enzyme–resins that have since played a major role in the field of biotechnology, as, for example,

Georg Manecke iii

in the transformation of glucose syrup (from corn) to a glucose–fructose mixture with a stronger sweetness than that of cane sugar. Because of this work, he was duly christened the "Father of Enzyme Resins" during a Biotechnology Conference in the USA in 1973.

Apart from this field, Professor Manecke worked extremely successfully on special ion-exchangers; he constructed a much admired "Membrane Accumulator;" was one of the first to exercise the chromatographic analysis of ion-exchangers; did admirable and tedious work over many years on redox resins (synthesized and studied them); prepared electrically conductive polymers; produced and studied various structures of polymeric catalysts; as well as developing many interesting technical materials such as special epoxides, polyurethanes, and polyamides.

In view of his extensive and creditable work in the field of macro-molecular chemistry, Professor Manecke was presented with the Staudinger-Preis (an extremely high award) by the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker.

During his time, Professor Manecke taught thousands of students and over a hundred graduated, took their doctor's degree in the "Manecke School," and are today successfully active in research, industry, and civil service positions. His coworkers admired him as a scientist with the capability and resources to apply the fundamentals required in all his research, encouraging and inspiring those working with him. Altogether, his enthusiasm, his candid outlook on life and his worldly surroundings, his kindness and understanding for all around him, resulted in Professor Manecke being looked upon with great esteem. In the somewhat turbulent times of structural changes within the University, he continued to project an optimism and an incentive to carry out his assigned research work in spite of complications, an attitude commendable in all respects.

The yield from Professor Manecke's scientific accomplishments over the years are contained in almost 300 publications in national and international journals, a testament to his great achievement.

Professor Dr. Gerhard Kossmehl Berlin