

## CHRONICLES

### CONFERENCES AT MOSCOW UNIVERSITY

The Second All-Union Inter-University Conference on Ozone was held in the department of chemistry of Moscow State University (MSU) from January 25 to 27, 1977. Problems involved in the technical preparation of ozone and its uses in various chemical processes, including its utilization for the purification of waste waters, were discussed. Also discussed were problems of the ozone layer of the earth's atmosphere, methods for the decomposition of excess ozone, and methods for the analytical determination of ozone.

More than 20 papers were devoted to the problems of ozonolysis of organic compounds. N.F. Tyupalo (Rubezhansk) gave a report on the catalytic oxidation by ozone of a number of alkylated and condensed heteroaromatic compounds, in particular the oxidation of benzimidazole. N. D. Rus'yanova and co-workers (Sverdlovsk) presented a paper on the oxidation of indene and indole, and D. L. Rakhmankulov (Ufa) discussed the action of ozone on cyclic acetals. A number of communications were devoted to the ozonolysis of dyes in industrial waste waters.

The Seventh All-Union Conference on Calorimetry, which was attended by more than 500 participants, including a number of scientists from other countries, was held at MSU from January 31 to February 3, 1977. Most of the papers pertained to the problems involved in the construction of apparatus and the creation of reliable methods for the accurate determination of the physical constants of substances; prominent among the papers presented were those dealing with the evaluation of the thermal effect of chemical and biochemical (including microbiological) transformations.

The readers of our journal should note the report by I. D. Zenkov et al. (the Vitamin Institute, Moscow) on the microcalorimetric determination of the structural modifications of 5(6)-amino-2-(p-aminophenyl)benzimidazoles from the thermal effects of interaction with various solvents, the report by A. K. Bonetska et al. (MSU) on the thermochemical study of the role of the solvent with respect to the rate of trimerization of aryl cyanates to sym-triazine derivatives, the paper by D. d'Ascenzo (Italy) on saccharin complexes with divalent metal salts, and two communications from the Institute of Physics of the Academy of Sciences of the Georgian SSR on the calorimetry of DNA in normal and tumorous tissues (D. R. Monaselidze et al.).

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### SECOND ALL-UNION CONFERENCE ON THE CHEMISTRY OF CARBENES AND THEIR ANALOGS

The conference was held in the Institute of Organic Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR in Moscow from April 25 to 27, 1977, and was attended by more than 300 participants, who presented 64 papers. Most of the research presented was carried out at Leningrad University and at the institute which organized the conference (under the general supervision of Professor O. M. Nefedov). The papers delivered encompassed a rather broad spectrum of research: from classical carbenes (and cases in which the process can formally be considered to proceed through a step involving carbenes but after more thorough study was found to proceed in a different manner) to complex structures of the carbene type and heteroorganic models of the type having carbenelike particles in the germanium series (germylenes). Communications from the laboratory of Academician I. L. Knunyants (Institute of Heteroorganic Compounds) on the synthesis of fluorinated derivatives of furan and indole pertained directly to the chemistry of heterocycles. A series of papers were delivered on the reactions of carbalkoxycarbenes with vinylfurans and nitriles (the formation of oxazoles) and on the reactions of some heterocyclic carbenes that are derivatives of imidazole [S. I. Burmistrov (Dnepropetrovsk)], pyran [G. N. Dorofeenko (Rostov)], thiazolidine, etc. All of the participants noted the prospects for the future development of this scientific trend.

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