

Organo-Element Compounds, Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. (100 pages, 67 refs, 50% Russian).

A detailed study, by NMR and ESR, of the dynamic delocalisation of unpaired electrons in organic systems. In addition to common carbon radicals, interesting radicals containing silicon or tin, phosphorus, arsenic, antimony, and bismuth and aluminium are also discussed. A most useful study for both organic and inorganic chemists.

This book is well produced, though in some cases, the diagrams could have been clearer.

The Editor's Desk

Boron Chemistry—4, Edited by Robert W. Parry and Goji Kodama, Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1980 pp. 161, price US \$49.50.

This volume contains the plenary and session lectures presented at the Fourth International Meeting on Boron Chemistry, Salt Lake City and Snowbird, Utah, U.S.A., 9–13th July 1979, and sponsored by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

Chapters cover conceptual advances in boron chemistry, carboranes and cluster compounds, organometallic compounds containing boron or carboranes, the use of boron in organic chemistry, organoboranes, non-classical ions, medical applications of boron amino acids, smaller boranes and borane applications. Chapters were contributed by Nobel Laureate Lipscomb, Rudolph, Wade, Hill, Johnson and Hosmane, Bregadje, Kampel, Usiatinsky and Godovikov, Pelter, Gaines, Siebert, Fehlner, Nöth, Spielvogel, Williams and Field, and a perspective report by Burg. The book was produced 'camera ready' but has a pleasing presentation. Unfortunately there are no indexes. A useful book for all interested in boron chemistry.

Coordination Chemistry—20, Edited by D. Banerjea, Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1980, pp. 275, price US \$75.00.

This volume contains the invited lectures presented at the 20th International Conference on Coordination Chemistry, Calcutta, India, 10–14th December 1979, sponsored by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), and the Indian Chemical Society (Calcutta). The book contains contributions by Bailar (New developments in coordination chemistry), Chatt (Complex chemistry and mimicry of metalloenzymes), Basolo (Synthetic oxygen carriers), Sigel (Mixed ligand complexes in solution), Tobe

(Mechanism of base hydrolysis of octahedral cobalt(III) complexes), Langford and Hollebone (Photochemical paths), Earley, Berrie, Barone, Bose and Lee (Orbital symmetry and substitution rate effects on redox reactions), Kaden (Functionalised macrocyclic chemistry), Beck (Fourteen, a magic number of coordination chemistry), Venanzi (Insertion of unsaturated hydrocarbons into metal-hydrogen bonds), Spitsyn (Inorganic high molecular weight ligands), Odell, O'Connor and Bailey (Metal ion catalysed reactions of coordinated oxalate), Williams (Low molecular weight complexes in biological systems), Livingstone (Metal chelates as anti-cancer agents), Schrauzer (Nitrogen fixation), Cannon (Binuclear complexes in electron transfer reactions), Saito (Regio and stereoselectivity in oxo-transition metal complexes), Nefedov (Mutual influence of ligands), Sarkar (Coordination chemistry in biology and medicine), Bersuker (Structure/reactivity problems for coordination chemistry), Rasmussen and Woldbye (Conformational analysis), Gallais (Coordination chemistry—a quest for identity), Mason (Ligand polarisation transition probabilities), Bradley (Transition metal dialkylamides), Martin (Synthetic and structural chemistry of the transition metals), and Chen (Linear free energy relationships in coordination chemistry).

This volume (which contains no indexes) continues the high standards set by previous ICCC conferences and provides a useful cross-section of the current status of the field.

Coordination Chemistry—21, Edited by J.P. Laurent, Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1981, pp. 185, price US \$50.00,

This volume contains the plenary and section lectures presented at the 21st International Conference on Coordination Chemistry, Toulouse, France, 7–11th July 1980, sponsored by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

The plenary lectures were presented by Mason and Varghese (Valence electron distribution in transition metal complexes: state of the art studies), Cotton (Coordination compounds with metal-to-metal bonds: the constructive interaction of theory and experiment), Maverick and Gray (Solar energy storage reactions involving metal complexes) and Freeman (Electron transfer in 'Blue' copper proteins).

The section lectures include Coppens (Experimental charge density in metal-metal and metal-ligand bonds), Saito (Circular dichroism of asymmetrically distorted complexes of the transition elements), Hendrickson, Haddad, Federer and Lynch (Curiosities of spin crossover ferric Schiff base complexes), Interrante (Coordination compounds as a source of electrically