Book Reviews

Host–Guest Molecular Interactions from Chemistry and Biology, Ciba Foundation Symposium 158, edited by Derek J. Chadwick (organizer) and Kate Widdows, John Wiley and Sons, Chichester, 1991, pp. 278, US$39.50, ISBN 0-471-92958-1.

This is a publication developed from a symposium held at the Ciba Foundation in London, UK, July 3–5 1990.

The symposium discussed host–guest chemistry ranging from biology to chemistry with much emphasis on intermolecular interactions, always important in biology, and fast becoming very important in chemistry. The underlying theme is molecular recognition involving small and large molecules, as enunciated in the introductory chapter by Ian Sutherland. This is followed by general and authoritative chapters on self-assembly by Fraser Stoddart and Gokel. Many aspects of the field are then covered in a series of articles dealing with ion transport (Reinhoudt et al.), sensors (Albery), antibiotics and enzymes (Breslow, Rebek, Waring, Waltho and Williams), aspects of DNA and proteins (Carey et al., Edmundson et al., Roberts), the involvement of water (Lemieux et al.) and molecular modelling (Vinter and Saunders), with a closing summary by Sutherland. The book contains discussion following presentations, and subject and author indexes. It can certainly be recommended as a survey of the current status of the field.

The Editor's Desk

Electron Transfer in Inorganic, Organic and Biological Systems, (Advances in Chemistry Series 228), edited by J. R. Bolton, N. Mataga and G. McLendon, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC, 1991, pp. 295, US and export $89.95, ISBN 0-8412-1846-3.

This is a publication developed from a symposium held at the International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basin Societies, Honolulu, Hawaii, December 17–22, 1989.

This field is intensively active, with many of the major players represented in this contribution. The symposium was wide-ranging. This record, of 17 chapters and an epilogue (by R. A. Marcus), contains articles dealing with many aspects of the field, including basic theory (contributions by Archer,

Beratan, Bolton, Mataga, Sutin and their co-workers); photoinduced electron transfer (Archer, Bolton, Weedon and researchers from the Argonne National Laboratory and their co-workers); electron transfer in electric fields (Boxer); aspects of biological electron transfer (Iwaki, Itoh and McLendon), especially long-range electron transfer in proteins (Gray, Hoffman, Isied, Winkler and co-workers); a contribution on binuclear ruthenium (Ohno and co-workers); and solvent reorganisation dynamics (Winkler and co-workers). The last words are reserved for John Miller who summarises some of the remaining problems, especially related to distance and orientation, and Rudy Marcus summarizing the status of the field as exemplified by the coverage of the symposium. Anyone, graduate student or established researcher, wishing to learn where the current problems lie would find this contribution invaluable. There is a subject index.

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