

Electron Transfer in Biology and the Solid State Inorganic Compounds with Unusual Properties, Advances in Chemistry Series, No. 226, edited by M.K. Johnson, R.B. King, D.M. Kurtz, Jr., C. Kütal, M.L. Norton and R.A. Scott, American Chemical Society, 1990. 470 pp. ISBN 0-8412-1675-4.

This book was developed from a symposium sponsored by the Division of Inorganic Chemistry at The Biennial Inorganic Chemistry Symposium of the American Chemical Society, Athens, Georgia, March 1-4, 1989.

It is a collection of 23 articles from talks presented at the aforementioned symposium. The topic is introduced by an overview written by Bob Williams and this is followed by a discussion of the theoretical aspects of electron transfer by Reimers and Hush and by Sutin and Brunschwig. There then follow six chapters dealing with experimental approaches to biological electron transfer with specific reference to peptides and proteins, five more dealing with electron transfer in inorganic compounds, three papers dealing with theoretical aspects of electron transfer in solid state systems and five dealing with experimental aspects of solid state systems.

The organizers were fortunate in bringing together a large number of the major contributors to the field to provide an up-to-date presentation of the state-of-the-art. The coverage is rather broad, ranging from proteins to the ubiquitous ruthenium diimine systems to low dimensional metals and ceramic superconductors, thin films, graphite intercalation, and conducting polymers in zeolites, etc.

The volume presents an eclectic mixture of contributions that makes interesting reading.

The Editor's Desk

Metal Ions in Biological Systems, Degradation of Environmental Pollutants by Micro-organisms and their Metalloenzymes, Vol. 28, edited by H. & A. Sigel, Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, 1992, pp. 582, \$165.00. ISBN 0-8247-8639-4.

This is the latest in an excellent series which presents very wide aspects of the chemistry of biological systems. This series aimed to bring together coordination chemistry and biochemistry in their widest sense, reflecting the growing field of bioinorganic chemistry. It was hoped by the editors that the series would help to break down the barriers between the historically separate spheres of chemistry, biochemistry, biology, medicine and physics. This was