

P R E F A C E

The pattern adopted for this, the second, Annual Review of the Chemistry of the Main Group Elements follows closely that of the 1978 volume. As then, coverage is in terms of the eight Periodic Groups and the author list is unchanged.

The wealth of information available each year means that it is impossible in a publication of this type to provide a completely comprehensive survey. But we hope that, as well as noting the general directions of research in this area of inorganic chemistry, the review will also alert the reader to many specific pieces of research work.

The current volume deals with over 2100 references and is some eighty pages longer than its predecessor. The major increases are associated with greater activity during 1979 in the chemistry of the elements of Groups 3 and 5.

Finally, production of the typescript has been in the hands of Linda Bowering and Trevor Spencer to whom grateful thanks are due.

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