

*Electrochemical Surface Science. Molecular Phenomena at Electrode Surfaces.* Editor, Manuel P. Soriaga. Texas A&M University, American Chemical Society Symposium Series No. 378, American Chemical Society, Washington, D.C., 1988, xi + 545 pp. clothbound, U.S. and Canada US\$94.95; export US\$113.95. ISBN 0-8412-1542-1.

This volume was developed from a symposium which brought together the three interrelated disciplines of electrochemistry, surface science and metal cluster chemistry. There are 36 chapters in the volume, beginning with an overview. Eleven chapters describe the use of ultrahigh vacuum surface spectroscopic methods to study the electrode solution interface. Eight chapters are concerned with advances in newer techniques such as scanning tunneling microscopy. Aspects of in situ vibrational spectroscopy are dealt with in seven chapters while the final nine chapters discuss various electrode processes such as CO<sub>2</sub> methanation, surface organometallic chemistry and polymer chemistry.

The book is produced by photo offset from camera-ready copy but it seems that care has been taken to make sure that all this copy is of a uniform high standard. There are subject and author indexes which enhance one's ability to use this book which will be a useful addition to the electrochemical bookshelf.

The Editor's Desk

*Mechanisms of Inorganic and Organometallic Reactions, Vol. 5.* Editor, M.V. Twigg. Plenum, New York, 1988, 466 pp., US\$85.00. ISBN 428415.

This series of books continues critical reviews of mechanistic aspects of inorganic and organometallic reactions in solution. Following the philosophy of the Chemical Society specialist publications, these volumes cover the whole area for a particular time period; in this volume the papers published during the 18-month period from July 1985 through December 1986, together with some earlier work where appropriate are covered. The topic areas are grouped into four sections: electron transfer reactions, substitution and related reactions, reactions of organometallic compounds and compilations of numerical data.

Electron transfer reactions are covered in three chapters by Cannon (general and theoretical), Lappin (redox reactions between two metal complexes), and Bakàc and Espenson (metal-ligand redox reactions). Cannon's contribution is simply a textual list of the various reviews that have come