

## Preface

It is not so long ago that if one prepared, by chance, an insoluble polymer, there was little one could do with it and one generally set it aside. The purposeful design of polymers containing useful, functional inorganic fragments is a comparatively new idea associated with “crystal engineering”. However, it is a field that has blossomed rapidly, no doubt in part due to the revolution in X-ray data collection and analysis.

This Volume is devoted to various aspects of coordination polymers as a means of illustrating the maturity and utility of the field today.

15 articles cover a wide swathe of this chemistry including porous solids, host-guest complexes, magnetic

phenomena, photochemistry, chains and knots, electronic interactions, hydrogen bonding, the chemistry of surfaces, organic-inorganic combinations, all with great emphasis on detailed structural analysis as obtained through X-ray methods.

Clearly this broad area plays a major role in materials chemistry and I hope this Volume can provide a window on the field both to experienced practitioners and neophytes.

A B P Lever  
Editor