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Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals Incorporating Nonlinear Optics

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Preface

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The papers appearing in this issue of Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals were presented at the Fifth European Liquid Crystal Conference held in Borovets, Bulgaria, March 25 -30, This Conference was organized by the Institute Solid State Physics, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, accordance with the recommendation of the International Advisory Board taken during the Forth European Conference in Yugoslavia.

The Conference was held under the patronage of Stoyan Markov, First Deputy Chairman of the Ministry Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Chairman of the State Committee for Research and Technology.

Conference was supported by the European Physical as a Topical Conference. The Organizing Committee Society sponsorship of Gordon acknowledges the & Breach Science Publishers, N.Y., the Bulgarian State Committee for Research Technology, the Committee for Science, the District Branch of the Union of Scientific Workers the Economic Organization (EO) "Instrument Design Bulgaria, EO "Electronic Materials and Components", and Automation", EO "Technomat", EO "Pharmachim" and the Bulgarian Airlines "Balkan".

the Conference Basic subjects of were Lavered Columnar Mesomorphic Systems. By plenary lectures, oral and communications the present knowledge about state was summarized and its applications in modern crystal optoelectronics and in membrane biology were underlined. The papers were classified according to the Structure and Dynamics, Phase Transitions, Defect subjects: Amphiphiles and Biological Aspects, Models, Anchoring, New Display Concepts.

The total number of participants was 173, including 57 from Bulgaria and 116 from 18 European countries, USA, Canada, Japan and India.

total 27 plenary lectures, 28 ora1 Ιn communications presented. poster communications were reported were Ferroelectric liquid crystals (theory, experiment, synthesis and applications), paramagnetic nematics, intermediate liquid crystal phases, phenomena. phase transition dynamics in phospholipids, lyotropics and topology, swelling of phospholipids, dynamic lyotropics and topology, structural formation in membranes, lyotropic nematics as media for chemical reactions, nematic

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vi PREFACE

droplet dispersions for displays, modern nematics for highinformation content displays, etc. The scientific program stimulated many animated discussions.

the Fifth European Winter Liquid As a whole, Crystal Conference demonstrated the present explosive growth liquid crystal physics, chemistry and technology, especially of ferroelectrics, liquid crystal approach in the solid membranology, anchoring of liquid crystals to demonstrating also the great technological supports, etc. impact of these fields of research.

the Conference continued former conclusion, the conferences' tradition to be a forum of the European crystal scientists' community and to liquid develop world further both fundamental and applied aspects of layered columnar mesophases. The general opinion of the participants was that the Conference provided excellent possibilities for wide exchange of knowledge between them, especially between Eastern European and Western European scientists.

International Advisory Board had The two during the Conference. It took a decision for the following European Conference to take place in Schladming, the first quarter of 1989 under the chairmanship Professor Peter Laggner, Institute for Fine X-Ray The main topic of the next Conference was proposed to "Polar Effects in Low-Dimensional Mesomorphic Systems".

Organizing Committee of the Fifth European is greatly indebted to a11 supporters Conference The listed above. Guest Editorial Board is sponsors to Molecular Crystals especially thankful and Liquid Crystals Editorial Board and Gordon & Breach for generous sponsorship, and to the Publishers their Editor-in-Chief M. Μ. Labes for the invaluable cooperation in preparation of these Proceedings.

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