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Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals Incorporating Nonlinear Optics

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Preface

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PREFACE

This volume and Volume 155 form the Proceedings of the International Conference on Liquid Crystal Polymers held at Bordeaux, France, from July 20–24, 1987. About three hundred and fifty scientists from twenty-one different countries participated in the Conference.

In structuring the program, the Scientific Committee found it helpful to divide the field into eight topics, respectively:

- Textures, defects and instabilities
- Dynamic aspects
- Rheology
- Lyotropic materials, synthetic or natural
- Applications
- Synthesis and elaboration
- Structure and conformation
- Phase diagrams and phase changes

In addition to 23 plenary or invited lectures, the program consisted of 25 fifteen-minute talks and roughly 160 poster presentations. The conference benefitted greatly from the willingness of many contributors to present a clear statement of their scientific results.

Our purpose was to bring together chemists and physicists working on the frontiers of both the subfields of Liquid Crystals and Polymers. In this regard, the intent was to focus on recent fundamental problems in liquid crystalline polymers science which may also have relevance to future needs for technological applications.

These special issues contain a collection of about one hundred papers based on invited, oral and poster presentations. We wish to thank the authors and referees for making this publication possible.

Finally, it is a pleasure to express our thanks to all who gave so generously of their time and energy to make the organization of the conference the success that it was generally acknowledged to have been. Chief among these individuals were the members of the International Advisory Board and the Scientific and Local Organizing Committees.

The expression of our gratitude would not be sufficient without special thanks to the publishers of Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals, for coordinating and supporting the publication of these proceedings.

H. GASPAROUX F. HARDOUIN