Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals Incorporating Nonlinear Optics

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Preface

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PREFACE

In the late summer of 1987 (August 31–September 4), the Sixth International Symposium on Liquid Crystals and Ordered Fluids was held as part of the National American Chemical Society Meeting at New Orleans, Louisiana. The Colloid and Surface Chemistry Division of the ACS was primary sponsor of the Symposium. The technical program ran four and a half days, with its focus on polymeric liquid crystals. This area of liquid crystal science was chosen for emphasis because of the recent explosion of interest in and study of these novel materials. In addition to polymeric liquid crystals several excellent papers on other aspects of liquid crystal research were presented.

Included on the program were a wide range of topics in liquid crystal polymer research including: synthesis and characterization of new materials, examination of a variety of physical properties, theoretical investigations, nonlinear optical polymers, lyotropic systems, and all-aromatic polyesters. Participants spanned the disciplines of physics, chemistry and engineering. Papers in this volume are from presentations at the Symposium, with a few additional contributions from persons unable to be in New Orleans.

Scientists from ten countries have contributed to this volume, which we feel represents a representative cross-section of current research efforts in the liquid crystal polymer field.

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