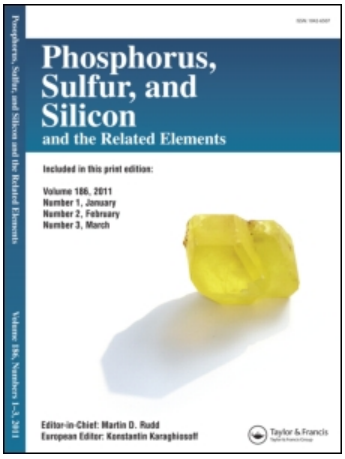

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A Review of: "Sulphur-82: Proceedings of the International Conference on Sulphur. Edited by A. I. More. The British Sulphur Corporation Ltd., London, 1982, 586 pp. (folio) $125.00."

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Book Reviews

Sulphur-82: Proceedings of the International Conference on Sulphur. Edited by A. I. More. The British Sulphur Corporation Ltd., London, 1982, 586 pp. (folio) $125.00.

This carefully prepared volume contains 66 papers which were presented at the international conference held in London, November 14–17, 1982. In the introduction the editor provides a succinct summary of the current situation in the sulfur field. The papers have been well selected and make a well balanced volume representing a wide variety of topics authored by authors from all parts of the world. J. W. Couston (FAO, UNESCO, Rome) reviews World Food Production and Fertilizer Demand Prospects through the year 2000; R. Q. Phillips (Cansulex, Vancouver, B.C.) explains the link between Sulphur and the International Phosphate Industry; S. L. Tisdale and D. W. Bixby (Sulphur Institute, Washington, DC) review the Trends in Nutrient Sulphur Use, a field which they themselves stimulated through intense sponsorship of world-wide research; D. E. Morse and J. E. Shelton (U.S. Bureau of Mines) review the Changing Patterns in Industrial Demand for Sulphur; J. M. Lancaster (British Sulphur Corporation) predicts Global Sulphur Supply and Demand, a field in which he has been a pioneer for more than twenty years; J. Keller (Int. Sulphur, New York) outlines The Role of Canadian Sulphur in World Trade in the 1980s, and predicts a more stable role than that experienced during the turbulent seventies; M. Rieber (University of Arizona) revisits and moderates his earlier predictions of The Future of Sulphur Production from Coal, Shale Oil, Tar Sands and Heavy Oil; A. A. Miranda (Office Cherifien des Phosphates, Morocco) explains the importance of stable sulfur prices for an orderly fertilizer supply; D. H. Boone (Chemical Enterprises, Houston) reviews Non-Agricultural Sulphur Products for Industry; J. E. Gillott *et al.* (University of Calgary) provide an update of their Sulphur Concrete Studies; G. Singh explains the Design of Sulphur–Bitumen–Sand Mixtures for Road Construction, and B. Meyer (University of Washington) reports on Structural Materials from Sulphur and Forest Wastes. In the section on sulphur trade, transport, handling and storage, those touching chemical problems were those by P. E. Hasting and I. M. Sorgo (Jebsens Shipping Co, London) on A Ship Owner's View of Sulphur Transport, which provided details about the difficult corrosion problems which remain unresolved; R. E. Boillat (C. S. Lewis, USA) Overcoming Problems Associated with the Handling and Pumping of Ash-Laden Molten Sulphur; J. A. Lagas (Comprimo, Holland) Sulphur Degasification; J. H. D. Harvey (Dow Corning) Slate Prill Improvement with Silicones, and Ms. H. Lescczcynska (Organic Chemicals Institute, Warsaw) on Recent Development of the Polish Sulphur Prilling Process, a method which has found world wide acceptance in various modifications. The section on Processing Sulphur and Sulphur Containing Materials contains twelve papers dealing with recovery from Hydrocarbon Fuels by H. G. Paskall and J. A. Sames (Western

Research, Calgary); R. Vermeersch and T. Dupin (Rhone-Poulenc, France); T. Lübcke and R. Kettner (Mobil Oil, BRD); M. Clouston and C. Plummer (Snamprogetti, England); H. T. Ball (Ford, Bacon & Davis, USA); J. Elgue and J. Tournier-Lasserve (Elf Aquitaine, France); D. K. Beavon and A. E. Chute (Ralph Parsons USA and London); D. C. Parnell (Coastal Chemical, USA); J. Nougayrede (Elfe Aquitaine, France); R. Lell and U. Neumann (D. McKee, BRD); Y. Barthel, A. Deschamps, C. Dezael and H. Gruhier (Inst Franc. du Petrole) and a very stimulating description of Ammonium Thiosulphate Production from Claus Tail Gas for use as slow-release fertilizer. A. Bruynesteyn (B.C. Research, Canada) explains How to Handle Acod Gas from Batch Reactors; G. D. Barrett and A. Littler (Central Electricity Generating Board, UK) review Problems of Sulphur Emissions from Power Stations; B. Meyer (University of Washington) reviews Sulphur Abatement from Coal Fired Power Plants, and Z. Gatarz, J. Kirejczyk and J. Krajewski (Polish Sulphur R & D Center) describe Sulphur Mining and Processing in Poland.

A series of excellent papers describes the status of sulfur use in agriculture. A. Carpentier (Sulphur Institute, London) reviews Crop Response to Sulphur in Western Europe; T. P. Hignett and P. J. Stangel describe Agricultural Sulphur in the Americas; G. J. Blair (University of New England, Australia) summarizes Regional Developments in South-East Asia; A. El-Mowafi (Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research) reports on Sulphur Use in the Middle East; J. P. Widdowson and L. C. Blakemore (DSIR, New Zealand) summarize the Sulphur Status of Soils in the South-West Pacific Area; M. Nybord (University of Alberta) reports on the Environmental Impact of Wind-blown Sulphur from Natural Gas Processing Plants in Alberta; M. A. Tabatabai (Iowa State University) describes Analytical Methods for Sulphur in Soils; J. W. B. Stewart and J. R. Bettany (Saskatchewan Institute of Pedology) explain Sulphur Cycling in Soils; J. W. Fitzgerald and D. W. Johnson (Oakridge National Lab) report on the Transformation of Sulphate in Forested and Agricultural Lands, M. Wainwright (University of Sheffield) describes Microbial Oxidation of Sulphur in Soils Subject to Atmospheric Deposition, and J. P. Freney and P. J. Randall (Commonwealth Research Organisation, Australia) review Diagnosis of Sulphur Deficiency in Plants.

We understand that a companion volume with symposium discussions is in preparation. The papers of this conference eloquently demonstrate the tremendous importance of sulfur in industry and agriculture, and almost every paper shows the need for a better chemical understanding of elemental sulfur and its compounds. This message is striking, as the symposium was not aimed at chemists, but at a very broad audience with interest ranging from population control to shipping logistics, as well as economics.

We wish that this volume would be widely available for all researchers who deal with sulfur.

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