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Acta Cryst. (1988). **A44**, 1103

Acta A – a new look for 1989

From January 1989, *Acta Crystallographica* Section A will be published monthly. Additionally it will incorporate a new *Fast Communications* section. This section will include papers covering all aspects of crystallography on topics of current interest for which rapid publication is essential; these papers will be speedily refereed and prepared on a desktop publishing system in Chester for onward transmission to the printer as camera-ready copy. The average publication time from the receipt of a paper by a Co-editor until it appears in print will be about 3 months. In addition, Letters to the Editor will be considered for this new section, along with reports of IUCr Commissions.

Call for papers for the new Fast Communications Section

Authors are therefore requested to submit suitable papers to any of the Co-editors of *Acta Crystallographica* or *Journal of Applied Crystallography*. Authors should follow the usual *Notes for Authors* for these journals, but additionally:

The topic should be of sufficient interest to merit special treatment and the letter accompanying the submission should identify the aspect which makes speedy publication essential;

The paper should not exceed two printed pages (about 2000 words or eight pages of double-spaced typescript including tables and figures);

Figures should be clearly lettered;

If the paper is available on 3.5 or 5.25" IBM PC-compatible or Macintosh diskettes it would be helpful if these could be sent with the manuscript together with details of the word-processing package used.

Papers submitted for the *Fast Communications* section but judged by the Co-editor *not* to merit rapid publication will be considered for publication in the appropriate section of *Acta Crystallographica* or in *Journal of Applied Crystallography*.

Book Reviews

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Book-Review Editor (R. O. Gould, Department of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh, West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JJ, Scotland). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.

Acta Cryst. (1988). **A44**, 1103-1104

Molecular crystals. By JOHN D. WRIGHT. Pp. vii + 178. Cambridge University Press, 1987. Price £32.50, US \$54.50.

This book covers a wide field, dealing with physical and chemical properties of crystals. Many of these properties are obviously connected with crystallography, but for various reasons most crystallographers are not familiar with

a number of them, since they are considered instead to be a part of 'solid-state physics'. However, even within solid-state physics itself, organic crystals have until recently received substantially less attention than have inorganic crystals. Consequently, a guide to this field is particularly useful, even to specialists, especially in view of its fast-growing range of applications.

The theoretical knowledge for a thorough understanding of all the phenomena described here is rather extensive, and is not generally understood by non-specialists. In order