

International Union of Crystallography

Acta Cryst. (1983), **B39**, 526

Report of the Twelfth General Assembly and International Congress of Crystallography

The Report of the Twelfth General Assembly and International Congress of Crystallography, held in Ottawa, 16–25 August 1981, has been published in the May 1983 issue of *Acta Crystallographica*, Section A, pages 425–480.

Acta Cryst. (1983), **B39**, 526

Report of the Executive Committee for 1981

The Report of the Executive Committee for 1981 has been published in the May 1983 issue of *Acta Crystallographica*, Section A, pages 481–499. It reports on the meetings and publications of the Union, the work of its Commissions, and the work of bodies not belonging to the Union on which the Union is represented.

Acta Cryst. (1983), **B39**, 526

Current Crystallographic Books 1970 through 1981

The December 1982 issue of *Journal of Applied Crystallography* [*J. Appl. Cryst.* (1982), **15**, 640–676] includes a new comprehensive booklist, commissioned by the IUCr and

edited by the Book-Review Editor, John H. Robertson. Dr Robertson has written the following note about the list.

Anyone with an interest in seeing the total range of currently available books on crystallography, and virtually all topics connected with crystallography, can take advantage of the new booklist. It is published not as a separate booklet, but in the *Journal of Applied Crystallography* (*JAC*). *JAC* can be found, of course, in any good library.

It is sometimes quite useful to have a document of this kind at hand, on one's desk, for reference. Copies of this new booklist can be obtained from the Chester office of the IUCr; however, as photocopying is nowadays so efficient and routinely available, the IUCr would prefer crystallographers who have such equipment in their institutions to *make their own copies*, if that is reasonably convenient. The Chester office will gladly supply copies to those who cannot easily make their own – in the developing, or third-world countries, particularly.

This new booklist is the successor to Helen Megaw's list (of about 1965, up-dated about 10 years ago by Michael Woolfson). This new list has about 1200 entries. It differs from previous lists in having the books classified into some 30 or so subject areas, rendering it much less tedious to consult, and in the use of various type-faces, making it rather easy for a comparatively casual user to scan up and down the pages to pick out what is interesting in his or her own speciality. The period covered is the decade 1970–1981, with a sprinkling of 1982 titles included. Incidentally, one book that's *not* in the list (because it has appeared only recently) is a reprint of the famous James classic, *Optical Principles of X-ray Diffraction*.

Book Reviews

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Book-Review Editor (J. H. Robertson, School of Chemistry, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, England). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.

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The chemistry of the metal–carbon bond. Vol. 1. Edited by F. R. HARTLEY and S. PATAI. Pp. xii + 1071. London: John Wiley, 1982. Price £125.00

This book deals with the structure, thermochemistry and characterization of organometallic compounds. It has 22 chapters, written by individual authors: 11 on synthesis, one on structure, one on thermochemistry, five on analysis and one each on IR and Raman spectroscopy, NMR and mass spectroscopy. Each chapter goes into its subject quite deeply. Unfortunately several of the structural formulae are not well drawn and give a false (or no) idea of the stereochemistry. However, the book will be a very useful addition to the exclusive series *The Chemistry of Functional Groups*, edited by Patai.

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Acta Cryst. (1983), **B39**, 526–527

Structure and bonding in crystals. Vols. I and II. Edited by M. O'KEEFE and A. NAVROTSKY. Pp. 327 (I) and 357 (II), Figs. 226, Tables 86. New York: Academic Press, 1981. Price £31.80, US \$40.00 (I) and £33.80, US \$51.00 (II).

These two volumes are a direct outcome of a conference held (in January 1980 at Castle Hot Springs, Arizona, USA) by a diverse group of scientists with a common interest in principles of structure and bonding in complex solids. Fifty years had elapsed since Professor Linus Pauling published his celebrated paper on 'The Principles Determining the Structure of Complex Ionic Crystals'. Linus Pauling also participated in this meeting and vividly recollected the early days of crystal chemistry from his personal experience. The first chapter is a verbatim record of his recollection. The conference reviewed rather thoroughly the recent developments in various aspects of crystal chemistry.

The book consists of twenty-six chapters or papers, equally divided into two volumes. Virtually all contributors