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**John E. Ellis\***: Adventures with Substances Containing Metals in Negative Oxidation States

Page 3168. In the section on Monatomic Metal Anions,  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Sn}$ ,<sup>1</sup>  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Pb}$ ,<sup>1</sup> and  $\text{Mg}_3\text{Bi}_2$ <sup>2</sup> merited inclusion because they formally contain atomic  $\text{Sn}^{4-}$ ,  $\text{Pb}^{4-}$ , and  $\text{Bi}^{3-}$ , respectively. These compounds are often described as “Zintl phases” and have properties that are intermediate between those of metal alloys and ionic compounds.<sup>3</sup> Presumably more ionic,  $\text{Li}_4\text{Sn}$ ,<sup>4</sup>  $\text{Ca}_2\text{Sn}$ ,<sup>5</sup>  $\text{Ca}_2\text{Pb}$ ,<sup>5</sup> and  $\text{Na}_3\text{Bi}$ <sup>6</sup> have also been isolated, but all of these substances are likely to be less salt-like than  $\text{Cs}^+\text{Au}^-$  and the other examples shown under 2(a) in Table 1.

Also, in the discussion of alkali-metal anions, seminal contributions by Peter Edwards to our understanding of these species in solution, particularly in liquid crown ethers,<sup>7</sup> should have been cited.

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