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Preface

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Preface

The present collection of plenary and sectional plenary papers were presented at The International Symposium on Aging and Stabilization of Polymers, held on 10–15 October 1988, at the Institute of Chemical Physics, Academy of Sciences, USSR, under joint collaboration of many Academies of Sciences of various countries.

The Symposium was attended by 200 scientists from Bulgaria, Hungary, DDR, Cuba, Poland, Rumania, USSR, and Czechoslovakia, from 50 research institutes and universities associated not only with Academies of Sciences, but also with Ministries of High Education, of Chemical, Petrochemical, and Light Industries, etc.

The papers collected for this volume, 37 in all, are concerned with thermal, thermooxidative and photooxidative degradation, as well as with problems of polymer combustion and reduction of the combustibility of polymer materials. A considerable part of the communications deal with ozone-induced aging of caoutchoucs and rubbers, the action of antiozonants, the aging of polymer chloride and its derivatives, the possible ways of their stabilization, and also with the kinetics and action mechanisms of the antioxidants and photostabilizers in the degradation of multi-ton polymers.

Particular attention is paid to the effect of mechanical stresses on the oxidative degradation of polymers and to prognostication of the storage and reliable operation times of polymer ware.

The volume is intended for a wide range of specialists in the chemistry and physics of polymers, as well as in technology of polymer materials, namely for researchers, engineers, technologists, post-graduates and students.

I would like to express my thanks to Dr. A. Ya. Polishchuk who helped me to prepare this material for publication in English.

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