Book Reviews

J. L. Atwood (ed.): *Inclusion Phenomena and Molecular Recognition*, Plenum Press, New York (1990). ISBN 0-306-43508-X $89.95.

The Fifth International Symposium on Inclusion Phenomena and Molecular Recognition was held at Orange Beach, Alabama from the 18th–23rd September, 1988. This book contains 38 of the presentations at the symposium.

The largest selection of papers covers the area of molecular recognition and the design of molecular receptors with contributions by Rebek, Sessler, Wilcox, Stoddart, Bell, Hamilton, Stewart, Diederich, Murakami, de Mendoza, Shinkai, Ungaro, D'Souza, and Yamamura.

Mechanisms and applications of the host-guest process are covered by Schneider, Walba, and Fyles, whilst physical properties are discussed by Echegoyen, Toner, Suslick, Chapoteau, and Kano. Crowns and cryptands are covered by Cooper, Lindoy, and Burrows. The biomedical uses of cyclodextrins are covered by Pitha and complex formation by Kaifer and Ueno.

The second largest section gives a very broad and interesting coverage of zeolites with contributions by Cheetham, Turro, Fyfe, Newsam, Bein, Ramamurthy, Mallouk, Ozin, Suib, and Herron.

The above list of eminent authors will give a guide as to the quality of the contributions and a flavour of the material presented at the symposium. The book is therefore an excellent exposition of the state of the art of inclusion phenomena and molecular recognition at the time of the symposium.

Lancaster University J. E. DAVIES

Donald J. Cram: *From Design to Discovery*, American Chemical Society, Washington (1990). ISBN 0-8412-1768-8, 146pp., $24.95.

This is the third volume in the series *Profiles, Pathways and Dreams*, edited by Jeffrey I. Seeman, and consisting of the autobiographies of eminent chemists. Originally intended as a *single* volume collection of autobiographies of organic chemists the project took on a life of its own and evolved into the present series – consisting of 22 volumes!

After a brief account of his education at Rollins College (B.S.), the University of Nebraska (M.S.), 3 years working at Merck on the penicillin project, Harvard (Ph.D.) and 3 months postdoctoral work at MIT, the story starts in earnest in August 1947 with Cram's arrival at UCLA – his current place of work.

The book then lists in chronological order his main research interests: From Mold Metabolites to Phenonium Ions (1947–1969); Cram's Rule (1952–1963); Elimination Reactions; The Cyclophanes (1951–1970); Carbanion Stereochemistry

and Mechanism (1955–1972) and Dimethyl Sulphoxide Potentiation of Alkoxide Basicity (1959–1962). What will appeal to readers of this *Journal* is that 64 pages of this book are devoted to the work from 1970 onwards on host–guest complexation. It is interesting to read that Cram was unsuccessfully trying to interest graduate students in synthesizing chiral crown ethers from 1968 onwards (the year following the publication of the first of Pedersen's papers). He finally 'insisted' in 1970 that several of his postdoctoral coworkers entered the field . . . and the rest is history.

This delightful and readable book is liberally illustrated with a wealth of photographs spanning the years from 1924 (playing in the garden) to 1988 (playing on a surfboard!) and ends with a song written in 1974 entitled *Autobiographical Parody on the Career of the 1974 California Scientist of the Year.*

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