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Preface

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Preface

Ring-opening polymerization of heterocyclics has been investigated extensively in the last decade. Many new polymers have been made in the laboratory by ring-opening polymerization and some new commercial products are based on polymers from heterocyclics. These developments are the results of various approaches. New monomers were prepared and their polymerization studied but, in addition, old, well-known monomers were polymerized by newly developed polymerization techniques.

It seemed most appropriate that during the XXIIIrd IUPAC Congress, Macromolecular Section, one day—July 29—was devoted to the discussion of "Polymerization of Heterocyclics." Even so, the work which had been done in the past few years on the polymerization of heterocyclics was extensive, and only the most important developments could be covered. Seven topics were chosen for symposium lectures. As the criteria for their selection, we decided to emphasize novelty of monomer structure and polymerization technique, or utility of the polymers.

Our symposium speakers were leading scientists from academic and industrial laboratories from all parts of the world. The program chairman of the Macromolecular Section of the IUPAC Congress was P. Flory, and the symposium program coordinator was M. Morton. J. Furukawa was the symposium chairman of this symposium on "Polymerization of Heterocyclics."

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