

Perspectives in the Organic Chemistry of Sulphur; edited by B. Zwanenburg and A.J.H. Klunder, Studies in Organic Chemistry, Volume 28, Elsevier 1987, ix + 314 pages, US \$93.25, ISBN 0-444-42739-2.

This volume is devoted to the eighteen invited lectures of the Twelfth International Symposium on the Organic Chemistry of Sulphur, held in Nijmegen in The Netherlands in July 1986. The main themes of the conference were the synthesis of organosulphur compounds and organosulphur mediated synthesis, theoretical, mechanistic, and stereochemical aspects of organosulphur chemistry and bioorganic sulphur chemistry, and all these areas are represented in the lectures published.

It must be said at the outset that this book has been written for, and will be largely of interest to, specialist organosulphur chemists. However, there are some articles in which organometallics feature prominently. In the opening lecture David Harpp describes the use of $\text{Me}_3\text{SiSeSiMe}_3$ as an agent for the delivery of selenium and $\text{R}_3\text{GeS-S-S-GeR}_3$ as a source of S_2 . The synthesis of thiophene derivatives from mono- and di-metallated alkynes or allenes and thiocarbonyl compounds is discussed by R.L.P. de Jong and his co-workers. This strategy allows the preparation of 2,5-bis(dialkylamino) and related thiophenes, which are not readily accessible by more conventional routes. The theme of metallations is continued by Albert van Leusen, who considers the effect of sulphur substituents on the chemistry of carbanions derived from isocyanides. Silicon derivatives are also in evidence especially in the lecture by M. Isobe, who considers their heteroconjugate addition to vinyl sulphones, and the lecture by Hans-Hartwig Otto discusses uses of α -silylated sulphones in synthesis.

This book has been produced from camera-ready manuscripts with their customary attendant advantages and disadvantages. Production has been commendably speedy but the quality is inevitably uneven with quite a number of typographic errors. There are extensive bibliographies attached to each lecture, but no index. This is definitely a specialist volume with a limited appeal to the browser, and it is too expensive to be anything but a library purchase.

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Announcement

The Fifth International Symposium on Inorganic Ring Systems will be held on August 8–12, 1988, at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. There will be plenary and invited lectures, oral presentations and poster sessions. The topics covered will center on new ring systems, cages and clusters of nonmetal and metallic elements, with emphasis on main group elements. Syntheses, mechanistic features, structure and bonding, applications and biochemical aspects will be covered.

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