

Preface

It is a matter of great pleasure that we have been able to bring out this Festschrift in honor of Professor Jurgen M. (George) Honig, who has edited this Journal for several years with distinction. Most of the articles in the Festschrift relate to transition metal oxides, an area in which he has made outstanding experimental and theoretical contributions for over three decades. We join his friends and colleagues in dedicating this collection of articles to George Honig on the occasion of his 65th birthday.

George Honig has taught for many years and has always opted to teach different topics, often with new approaches. He has authored or edited valuable books on thermoelectricity, materials characterization, and thermodynamics. George is among the few who took up solid state chemistry at its early beginnings and helped to transform it into an interdisciplinary area of research. The articles included in this volume illustrate both the physical and the chemical aspects of George's research. His contributions to electronic properties of oxides and to metal-insulator transitions are especially

noteworthy. His research has been characterized by thoroughness and attention to detail.

It is not always easy to write about a person who has been a friend and research collaborator for many years, but we would be accurate if we were to state that George Honig is a dedicated teacher and research worker with progressive ideas and old-world values.

In addition to editing this Journal, George Honig has been associated with the editorial or advisory boards of other publications, including *Reviews of Solid State Science*. He has trained many students and postdoctoral fellows from all parts of the world. Most recently, he has been elected an honorary member of the Materials Research Society of India.

We appreciate the response from colleagues to our invitation to contribute to this Festschrift. Thanks are also due to Professor James W. Richardson for his help and advice in bringing out this publication.

C. N. R. RAO