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PREFACE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON MACROMOLECULAR ARCHITECTURE

The *International Symposium on Macromolecular Architecture*, with the subtitle "Nature as a Model of Molecular Design of the Polymeric Materials of Tomorrow," was held at the Royal Institute of Technology on April 20–21, 1995 under the cochairmanship of Ann-Christine Albertsson, Professor and Head of the Department of Polymer Technology of the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, and Otto Vogl, Herman F. Mark Professor of Polymer Science, Polytechnic University, Brooklyn, NY, USA. It consisted of 18 invited lectures and a Panel Discussion. The Symposium was held to honor Professor Bengt Rånby on his 75th birthday.

The Symposium was sponsored by the Kungliga Vetenskapsakademien (The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences), the Wenner-Gren Stiftelserna, the Carl Tryggers Stiftelse för Vetenskaplig Forskning, the Bo Rydens Stiftelse för Vetenskaplig Forskning, The Jacob Wallenbergs och Lars-Erik Tunholms Forskningsstiftelse, the Stiftelsen Svensk Färg- & Lackforskning, ASTRA AB, and Perstorp AB.

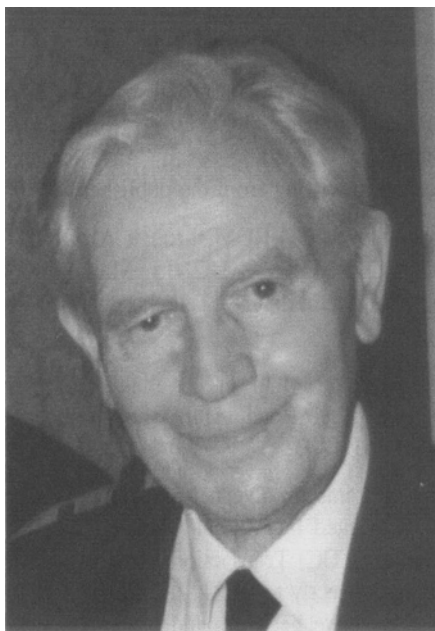
The Symposium attracted 185 participants from 20 countries and was opened by Professor Stig Hagström, the Chancellor of Swedish Universities and Colleges, member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and President of EVA, the Swedish Engineering Academy. Subsequently, Professor Hiroshi Yoshida presented Professor Rånby with the Silver Medal and Certificate of the "Award of Distinguished Service of Polymer Science, Japan" on behalf of the President of the Society of Polymer Science, Japan, Y. Imanishi.

Greetings were conveyed by Torvard Laurent, the Past President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Tornbjörn Norin, the President of the Swedish Chemical Society, Otto Vogl on behalf of the Polymer Division of the American Chemical Society and the Pacific Polymer Federation, and Nikos Hadjichristidis of the European Polymer Federation.

The final greetings of the morning were presented by Professor Janne Carlsson, the President of the Royal Institute of Technology.

On the previous evening a reception was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Stockholm. At this occasion, James Guillet, University of Toronto, Canada, discussed "Photochemistry 1961–1995," and J. Johan Lindberg, of the University of Helsinki, Finland, gave a talk on "Hydrogen Bonds and Macromolecules," subjects that were close to Bengt Rånby's interest.

During the Symposium the following papers were presented: A. Eschenmoser, ETH Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland, "Design of Nucleic Acids"; R. M. Brown, Uni-



PROFESSOR BENGT RÅNBY

versity of Texas, Austin, Texas, "The Biosynthesis of Cellulose"; S. Kobayashi, University of Tohoku, Sendai, Tohoku, Japan, "Chemical Synthesis of Natural Type Cellulose via Enzymatic Polymerization"; D. A. Tirrell, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, USA, "Design and Synthesis of Proteins"; J. Freché, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA, "Spherical Polymers and Dendrimers"; and F. Sundholm, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland, "Modelling of Polymer Properties; Polystyrene and Polysulfones."

A few short papers were presented by the members of the scientific staff of the Department of Polymer Technology of the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden: A. Hult, "An Organized Liquid Crystalline Network for Second-Harmonic Generation"; U. Gedde, "Dynamics and Structure of Side-Chain Crystalline Poly(vinyl ether)s"; and S. Karlsson, "Natural Metabolites as Opposed to Degradation Products of Synthetic Polymers."

Friday morning the following lectures were presented: H. Höcker, Wool Research Institute, Aachen, Germany, "Hierarchy of α -Keratin Fibers with a Glance to the Skin Including Ötzi"; N. Hadjichristidis, University of Athens, Athens, Greece, "Model Non-linear Block Copolymers: Synthesis, Characterization and Morphology"; X. Y. Hong, Qinhua University, Beijing, China, "Modification of Natural Polymers such as Silk, Chitin and Cellulose"; V. Percec, Case Western University, Cleveland, OH, USA, "Self-Assembly of Viruses as Models for the Design of New Macromolecular and Supermolecular Architecture"; M. Spinu, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, DE, USA, "Polylactides and Other Natural and Synthetic Polyesters"; T. Kitayama, Osaka University, Toyonaka, Osaka, Japan, "Natural and Synthetic Uniform Polymers"; K. Ghiggino, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia, "Photostabilizing Polymeric Materials"; and A.-C. Albertsson, Royal Institute of Polymer Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, the Co-chairperson of the Symposium, "Nature as Model for Degradable Polymers."

A panel discussion was organized by R. W. Lenz, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, USA, with the panelists: M. Fontanille, University of Bordeaux, Bordeaux, France, on "Living Cationic Polymerization"; J. Guillet, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, on "Polymer Photochemistry"; Z. Jedlinski, Polymer Institute, Zabre, Poland, on "New Lactide Polymerization"; and R. Marchessault, University of Montreal, Montreal, Canada, on "Polymer Structures." R. W. Lenz concluded with a discussion of "Polymers and Copolymers of β -Hydroxybutyric Acid."

The Symposium was concluded with a summarizing talk by Otto Vogl, Polytechnic University, Brooklyn, NY, USA, the Co-chairman of the Symposium on "Polymers for the 21st Century."

The Symposium Banquet, held at the Operaterassen, the most exclusive Restaurant in Stockholm, was attended by 135 persons including the Rånby Family with children and grandchildren. With Mats Johansson as toastmaster, the banquet was a tribute to Bengt Rånby for his professional and personal achievements.

The first toast was proposed by Carl-Olof Jacobsson, the General Secretary of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, to Bengt as a respected and active member of the Academy. Then followed a toast to Bengt by Professor Torbjörn Norin, Chairman of the Department of Chemistry of the Royal Institute, for his assiduous activity to modernize the chemistry curriculum at both the high school and the college level. A toast by Dr. Lars Gädda, Director of Research, Neste OY, Finland,

for promoting cooperation in International Polymer Technology and for initiating the Nordic Polymer Days. A toast by Dr. Karl-Erik Sahlberg, Chairman of the Federation of the Swedish Chemical Industries and former President of Perstorp AB, Sweden, to Bengt for his fruitful and stimulating contact and cooperation with the chemical and polymer industries. A toast by Dr. Alf de Ruvo, Director of Research, Swedish Cellulose AB, to Bengt for his basic work on cellulose structure and fiber morphology and his continued interest in cellulose research and new product development, of great benefit to the Swedish forest and wood industry. And, finally, a toast in metric form by Professor Kent Abbås, Director of Research of Borealis, Copenhagen, Denmark, to Bengt for his creative and important polymer research.

After dessert, Bengt Rånby expressed his warm personal thanks to the banquet speakers for their kind and appreciative words. He thanked particularly Professor Ann-Christine Albertsson and Professor Otto Vogl for arranging this Symposium which he considered of the highest level both scientifically and socially and the splendid banquet that was given in his honor. He also talked about "Reminiscences of Polymer Science and Industry in my Life." Bengt concluded that he is still looking forward to new fascinating developments in the polymer field for both natural and synthetic polymers.

On Friday noon the participants were invited by the mayor of Stockholm to the magnificent Stadshuset, the City Hall of Stockholm, for lunch. It is in this place, particularly the grand hall, where the Nobel banquet and the subsequent Nobel ball is held every year in December. The participants of the Symposium were addressed by Axel Wennerholm, First Vice President of the City Council of Stockholm, who pointed out the importance of Stockholm as a center of learning, commerce, and International interaction. Otto Vogl expressed, on behalf of the participants, their gratitude for having had the opportunity to visit the City Hall with the special luncheon and the tour through the beautiful building of the City Hall given for Professor Rånby and the participants of this International Symposium.

In this issue of the *Journal of Macromolecular Science—Pure and Applied Chemistry* we are publishing the manuscripts submitted by R. M. Brown, S. Kobayashi, J. J. Lindberg, D. A. Tirrell, J. M. J. Freché, U. W. Gedde, H. Hocker, N. Hadjichristidis, X.-Y. Hong, V. Percec, M. Spinu, T. Kitayama, K. Ghiggino, A. Hult, A.-C. Albertsson, and O. Vogl. These papers are based on the lectures they presented together with a special paper by O. Vogl on a subject of special interest to Bengt Rånby.

Stockholm, April 20, 1995

Ann-Christine Albertsson
Otto Vogl