

PREFACE

The idea to organize a symposium on a »evergreen« topic in chemistry: *aromaticity* was given originally by G. Naray-Szabo in 1976. Several colleagues in Europe and U.S.A. enthusiastically reacted to this idea and early in 1977 we started to organize the *International Symposium on Aromaticity*. The dream came true in late summer of 1979 in Dubrovnik where the combination of chemistry, the beautiful scenery, and warm weather made the meeting a memorable experience for all participants. The Symposium was organized, and the man-power supplied, by the Theoretical Chemistry Group, Physical Chemistry Department, The Rugjer Bošković Institute, Zagreb, Croatia, Yugoslavia under the sponsorship of the *International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry* in association with the Union of Chemical Societies of Yugoslavia, Croatian Chemical Society, and the Union of Chemists and Engineers of Croatia.

The International Symposium on Aromaticity, held in Dubrovnik, Croatia from September 3 to September 5, 1979, was attended by nearly hundred participants from 17 countries. The lectures and posters covered a significant part of the broad spectrum of aromaticity problems. Preparation of aromatic compounds, their physical and chemical properties, and various theories of aromaticity have been discussed.

The members of the *Scientific Committee* of the Symposium are active researchers in the field of aromaticity: B. A. Hess, Jr. (Nashville), G. Naray-Szabo (Budapest), F. Sondheimer (London), M. Tišler (Ljubljana), N. Trinajstić (Zagreb), and E. Vogel (Cologne). The *Organizing Committee* consisted of people from Zagreb: A. Graovac, M. Milun, Lj. Ruščić, A. Sabljčić, and N. Trinajstić.

Financial support was given by the Union of the Associations for Scientific Research of Yugoslav Republics and Autonomous Districts, Self-Supporting Association for Scientific Research (SIZ II) of Croatia, and INA-Petroleum Industry, Zagreb.

The invited papers presented at the Symposium appeared as a special issue of *Pure and Applied Chemistry* 52 (1980) 1397—1667 the official journal of IUPAC. In this issue of *Croatica Chemica Acta* we could publish only those contributed papers presented at the Symposium, orally or on posters, which have been received before agreed dead-line. In addition, each paper was refereed by two independent referees, internationally recognized as experts in the field of chemistry of aromatic compounds, so that only papers with favourable reports have been accepted.

On behalf of the Scientific Committee and the Organizing Committee we would like to express our gratitude to organizers, sponsors, organizations which supported us financially, and publishers for their help in the preparation for the Symposium and publication of the invited and contributed papers. Finally, we thank Dipl. Ing. Stjepan Lisjak (INA-Petroleum Industry, Zagreb), for showing his understanding for our problems.