

Foreword

The range and diversity of studies involving Electron Spin Resonance increases with each new volume in this series of *Specialist Periodical Reports* and it is heartening to note the increased assurance with which workers in many of the newer fields are applying the technique.

This volume covers the period December 1976 to May 1978. The trends noted in the previous volume have continued, with many more applications of e.s.r. to the study of biological systems. Spin labelling studies, which are by no means confined to biological systems, now justify a separate chapter, though the purely structural and kinetic studies of nitroxide radicals are still dealt with in the chapters on Organic Radicals.

Significant advances in experimental techniques are noted by several of the Reporters, and some advances seem likely to reawaken in theoretical aspects of e.s.r. which have been somewhat neglected of late.

An innovation for Volume 5 is the inclusion of a critical review of Chemically Induced Dynamic Electron Polarization (CIDEP). This not only covers the literature appearing during the period of the Report but also provides a much-needed perspective of a field which, while always holding out great promise, has suffered from a confusion of conflicting theories.

August 1978

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