

Foreword

This Report provides a comprehensive review of literature published during 1972 on the n.m.r., n.q.r., microwave, vibrational, and Mössbauer spectra of inorganic and organometallic compounds. The coverage and arrangement closely parallel those adopted last year. The Reporters have made strenuous efforts to contain the growing weight of material within the confines of a readable narrative of similar length to those produced in previous years. Extensive use of tabular material at appropriate points has enabled much factual and bibliographical information to be presented without destroying the flow of textual commentary.

It has been our aim not only to record results, but to indicate the wide variety of ways in which spectroscopic information is being used. Each chapter is self-contained and its length, and the number of references it contains, indicate the extent to which each technique is being applied to the study of inorganic and organometallic compounds. Each chapter states the range of work covered and the areas which have been omitted. The references have been obtained by means of the techniques outlined in previous volumes and we have tried to include all significant information published during 1972, though a few papers of Russian origin have had to be held over until next year.

We have been greatly heartened to read the many warm reviews of earlier volumes—it is always gratifying to have one's work appreciated—but equally we would greatly value suggestions from users on the ways in which the coverage of material or its presentation could be improved.

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