NEWS

Sixth Conference of Socialist Countries on Molten Salt Chemistry

The 6th Conference of Socialist Countries on Molten Salt Chemistry organized by the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry, Centre for Chemical Research, Slovak Academy of Sciences, the Czechoslovak Scientific and Technical Society, the Department of Chemical Technology of the Slovak Technical University, and the Slovak Chemical Society was held from June 6 to 9, 1988, in the House of Scientific Workers of the Slovak Academy of Sciences at Smolenice.

The conference was attended by 76 participants from Czechoslovakia (32), the Soviet Union (17), the German Democratic Republic (6), Hungary (5), Poland (12), Roumania (3), and Yugoslavia (1). The attention has been focused on the following topics: (i) Structure (ionic composition), physicochemical and electrochemical properties of molten salts, (ii) Electrodeposition of metals and alloys from molten salts, (iii) Chemical and electrochemical reactions in molten salts, (iv) Corrosion and dissolution of metals in molten salts. The last group of papers entitled (v) Concentrated ionic liquids dealt with the concentrated aqueous solutions.

From among the presented papers most attention has been paid to the plenary lectures "Molecular model of molten salt mixtures" (P. Fellner, Czechoslovakia), "Spectroscopic study of complex formation in molten salt systems" (S. V. Volkov, USSR), "Non-activated electrode processes in solid and molten electrolytes" (A. V. Gorodyskii, USSR), "Polyelectron electrochemical systems in ionic melts" (V. I. Shapoval and Kh. B. Kushkhov, USSR), and "Electrochemical investigation of oxygen-containing species in molten carbonates" (L. Suski, Poland). K. Matiašovský summarized the results of the Czechoslovak research in the field of molten salt chemistry, mainly oriented on the theoretical background of the aluminium electrolysis, and the results of the recent research aimed on the chemical and electrochemical synthesis of compounds interesting with respect to their potential exploitation in the field of functional and construction ceramics, on the preparation of inorganic glasses for optoelectronics, the investigation of the slug-forming oxide melts and the corrosion in molten salts. These plenary lectures were followed by a series of section lectures and posters. The session on the concentrated ionic liquids was opened by the plenary lecture "Salt hydrates as heat-storage media" (H.-H. Emons, GDR).

The Sixth Conference of Socialist Countries on Molten Salt Chemistry also served as a forum for evaluation of the international cooperation within the theme 4 "Electrochemistry of the nonaqueous, solid and molten electrolytes" of the problem of multilateral cooperation of the academies of sciences of Socialist countries "Electrochemistry". The meeting was presided by the international coordinator of theme 4, Professor Dr. L. Suski (Poland).

Following the offer of Academician H.-H. Emons (GDR), the committee of the heads of the national delegations has decided that the 7th Conference on Molten Salt Chemistry will be held in the German Democratic Republic in 1991 and that it will be open also for participants from the non-Socialist countries.

K. Matiašovský

International Congress on Polarography on the Occasion of 100th Anniversary of J. Heyrovský Birthday

The Congress will be held in Prague on August 20—25, 1990. It is organized simultaneously as 41st meeting of the International Society for Electrochemistry (ISE). Its aim is to discuss the contemporary branches of basic and applied research which originated from polarography or to the development of which the polarography contributed.

The Program covers 10 plenary lectures, 15 microsymposia, and 3 panel discussions; original contributions will be accepted in the form of posters. Besides scientific, also the social program is being prepared. The congress language will be English. Applications will be accepted till 31 March, 1989.

For further information contact the Secretariat of the International Congress on Polarography, Dolejškova 3, 182 23 Prague 8, Czechoslovakia.