EDITORIAL

Regular readers of *Faraday Transactions* will have noted changes in format and in the arrangement of material within this issue. These reflect our wish to improve the general appearance and legibility of the journal and to provide extra features such as cross-referencing between parts and a cumulative author index which will make the Transactions easier to use, but they also mark far-reaching changes in policy.

Thus there has been a significant re-allocation of material between Parts I and II. Part I is now designated 'Physical Chemistry in Condensed Phases'. As can be seen from the detailed list on the back cover it includes all those papers which manifestly belong to that category plus solid–gas interactions, heterogeneous catalysis and radiation chemistry, subjects which necessarily straddle states of aggregation. Part II encompasses 'Molecular and Chemical Physics' in continuation of a tradition established by *Transactions of the Faraday Society* in 1905, and includes all the topics which are generally agreed to fall in this subject area plus photophysics and photochemistry, all gas-phase reaction kinetics as well as the quantum theory, statistical mechanics and spectroscopy of condensed phases, subjects about whose proper designation as physical chemistry or chemical physics there is no consensus.

Apart from this reorganisation of subject matter, we have introduced new material which not only reflects the increasing importance of Subject Groups in the life of the Faraday Division but also serves to focus attention on rapidly developing topics. This new material, which over a two-year period should not take more than about 15% of the available space, comprises four distinct categories.

(i) *Keynote Issues*

Here a distinguished innovator in a specialised field of growing significance sets the scene with a Keynote Paper published in the same issue as invited, refereed papers in cognate areas. The first example in Faraday II will be provided by Professor Alan Carrington's Faraday Lecture on 'Molecular Dynamics and Spectroscopy': a second keynote issue has been arranged for Faraday I in collaboration with Professor John Albery. It will deal with 'Electrochemical Sensors'.

(ii) *Subject Group Meetings*

Whenever a Subject Group holds a meeting which includes lectures of a particular importance and timeliness it will be possible for selected texts to be collected and after review published in a single issue. Several such meetings are already arranged. They are normally designed to mimic the form of a keynote issue, but an early exception to this general rule is the Surface Reactivity and Catalysis Group meeting on 'Promotion in Heterogeneous Catalysis' to be held at Bath in September 1986. For this meeting the organisers have chosen Faraday Discussion format with pre-printed papers and post-printed discussion remarks. The proceedings will appear in Faraday I.

(iii) *Faraday Symposia ordered by Council*

Once a year in December a Faraday Symposium is held on a specialised, often theoretical topic judged to be at a branch-point in its development. Hitherto this material has only been available as an expensive separately issued volume. In future, starting with Symposium 20—'Phase Transitions in Adsorbed Layers' the papers and discussion

remarks will be incorporated in separately purchasable issues of the Transactions, making them both cheaper and more accessible to the general public.

(iv) *Commemorative Issues*

Very occasionally when a meeting is arranged to celebrate the achievements of a distinguished scientist who is also closely associated with the Faraday, space will be made available to publish refereed versions of the principal scientific papers presented. Just such an occasion will arise in 1986 when the work of Sir George Porter is celebrated at a meeting on 'Applications of Flash Photolysis'. The papers will appear in Faraday II.

The twice-yearly series of Faraday Discussions is not affected by these arrangements. Special issues of the Transactions will be advertised by distributed leaflets and other announcements, and be separately purchasable at favourable prices. If readers or librarians have any comments on the new-look Faraday or suggestions for further improvement would they please write to me at The Royal Society of Chemistry. In the meantime I would remark that we do not expect special issues to cause any undue delay in publication of regular, submitted papers.

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