



PERGAMON

Electrochimica Acta 45 (2000) xxxvii–xxxviii

ELECTROCHIMICA

Acta

www.elsevier.nl/locate/electacta

Historical overview of ISE/CITCE publications[☆]

R.D. Armstrong

Chemistry Department, The University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

The foundation meeting of CITCE was held in Brussels in 1949. It was recognised from an early stage that publication of the proceedings of the meetings was highly desirable. Therefore at the meeting in Milan (1950) arrangements were made for publication of the papers which had been presented there in the form of a Proceedings book. This was published by Tamburini (Milan). Papers from the following meetings were in many cases also published as books — those from Berne (1951) by Manfredi (Milan) and those from the meetings at Poitiers (1954), Lindau (1954), Madrid (1956) and Paris (1957) by Butterworths. There appears to have been a gap between 1951 and 1954. The flavour of these books can be obtained from the preface to the Poitiers book (published in 1955):

‘The International Committee of Electrochemical Thermodynamics and Kinetics (CITCE or Comité International de Thermodynamique et de Cinétique Electrochimiques) is essentially a group of research workers interested in the same problems and collaborating on the basis of the most complete cordiality and frankness to the achievement of a given research programme. The papers and discussions of their sixth meeting, which the present volume makes available to all electrochemists, must be regarded as giving a general picture of the preoccupations and opinions of the group at the time of the meeting, rather than as finished work and final opinions. The rapid evolution and the very unfinished character of electrochemical science, which are the *raison d’être* of the committee, necessarily give to these proceedings a rather transient value. We nevertheless hope that they will be found interesting and useful.’

The papers in these books do not appear to have been refereed. The majority of the papers are in English. There are some in French and one or two in German.

At the Amsterdam Meeting in 1958 a decision was taken that CITCE should publish a journal. The decision

was recorded (in French) in the Council Minutes as below: ‘La publication de Comptes Rendus [i.e. the Proceedings of the annual meetings] des réunions annuelles n’aura plus lieu à l’avenir. Il est prévu de les remplacer par un journal international paraissant plusieurs fois par an en anglais, français et allemand. Le nom de ce journal sera:

Electrochimica Acta: An International Journal of Pure and Applied Electrochemistry.

Grace à l’entremise de T.P. Hoar le Comité a reçu une offre ferme de la maison d’éditions Pergamon Press à Londres qui est disposée à publier le journal dans les conditions suivantes. Le journal paraîtra sous l’égide du CITCE, mais sans obligations financières de la part du Comité. Le CITCE devra seulement fournir le comité de rédaction qui sera composé de membres du CITCE. Les mémoires présentés aux réunions annuelles pourront être, en général, publiés dans le journal; leur niveau scientifique, leur nouveauté (dans le cas d’une recherche nouvelle) et leur présentation devront, cependant, satisfaire aux normes établies par le Comité de rédaction. Par ailleurs, il n’y aura pas d’obligation de faire paraître dans le journal les mémoires présentés aux réunions: les auteurs pourront choisir librement leur organe de publication. D’autre part, le journal publiera également des travaux qui n’auront pas fait l’objet d’une communication à une réunion, aussi bien que des mémoires dont les auteurs ne sont pas membres du CITCE. Les mémoires pourront être du domaine de l’électrochimie théorique aussi bien que de celui de l’électrochimie appliquée. Le conseil a donné mandat à T.P. Hoar d’établir un contrat approuvé par le Bureau pour la publication du journal par Pergamon Press’.

Thus *Electrochimica Acta* appeared in 1959 with T.P. Hoar as Editor-in-Chief. The first volume was composed almost entirely of papers presented at the CITCE Meeting in Amsterdam in 1958. Most of the papers were in English with some in French. Abstracts were provided in English, French and German. T.P. Hoar continued as Editor-in-Chief until 1972, when he was

[☆] Written in 1999.

replaced by H.R. Thirsk. By 1972 the journal had grown to 1140 pages per annual volume, with only a minority of the papers having previously been presented at a ISE/CITCE meeting. A decision was taken at that time to follow the international trend and publish only in English. By 1985 when R.D. Armstrong became Editor-in-Chief the number of pages annually was 1750. In 1999 *Electrochimica Acta*

will have 4500 pages. The present editorial policy is one of publishing papers in all the areas of electrochemistry represented by the ISE divisions. Papers are only accepted for publication when two referees send positive reports about them. One of the major features of the journal is the publication of special issues based on papers presented at important conferences in the field.