

Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Tirol

Radioaktive Umwandlungen

Rutherford, Ernest

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Preface

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P R E F A C E.

The present work contains the subject matter of eleven lectures delivered under the Silliman Foundation at Yale University, March, 1905.

I chose as the subject of my lectures the most recent and at the same time the most interesting development of Radioactivity, namely the transformations which are continuously taking place in radioactive matter. While dealing fully with this aspect of the subject, it was necessary for clearness to give some account of radioactive phenomena in general, although with much less completeness than in my previous book on Radioactivity.

In arranging the chapters of the present volume, the order in which the subject was dealt with in the lectures has been closely followed, but as our knowledge of the subject is increasing so rapidly, I have thought it desirable to incorporate the results of the many important investigations which have been made since the lectures were delivered. This is especially the case in the chapter dealing with the α -rays, to which much attention has been devoted in the past year on account of the important part they play in radioactive transformations.

In a rapidly growing subject like Radioactivity, it is very difficult to arrange that the subject matter of a book will be completely up-to-date at the moment of publication;

as some months have elapsed since the appearance of the English edition, it has been thought desirable to make a brief reference, in the form of footnotes, to the more important advances made in the interval.

In presenting this book to the German public, it is an added satisfaction to me that the translation has been undertaken by my friend Dr. Max Levin of Göttingen, who spent a year with me in the Laboratory at Montreal. I feel confident that in his hands the work of translation will be ably and efficiently done.

Montreal, March 8th 1907.

E. Rutherford.

VORBEMERKUNG ZUR DEUTSCHEN AUSGABE.

Herr Professor Rutherford hat die Liebenswürdigkeit gehabt, die vorliegende deutsche Übersetzung seiner Silliman-Vorlesungen durch einige Zusätze zu ergänzen, die über die neuesten Ergebnisse der Forschung berichten. Die durch * gekennzeichneten Anmerkungen sind von dem Übersetzer hinzugefügt.

Göttingen, 8. April 1907.

M. Levin.