

Book Reviews

Organometallic Chemistry Reviews: Section B—Annual Surveys. Vol. 5, No. 3. TRANSITION METALS, GENERAL, STRUCTURES AND GROUP VIIIA: ANNUAL SURVEYS COVERING THE YEAR 1968; edited by D. SEYFERTH AND R. B. KING. Elsevier Sequoia, Lausanne, 1969, 209 pp. Subscription price (5 issues) 83.50 Sfrs. (U.S. \$ 19.70).

This Volume deals with advances in the organometallic chemistry of some transition metals for the year 1968. The selection of topics in this issue can be seen from the chapter titles; Transition Metals: Results of General Interest (P. S. Braterman), Organometallic Structures—Transition Metals (M. I. Bruce); Ferrocene, Ruthenocene, and Osmocene (M. I. Bruce); Iron, Ruthenium and Osmium (J. McCleverty); Cobalt, Rhodium and Iridium (J. W. Kang and P. M. Maitlis); Nickel, Palladium, and Platinum (J. Powell). The emphasis therefore is on structural studies and on the organometallic chemistry of the Group VIII metals. The organometallic chemistry of other transition metals is surveyed adequately in Vol. 5 No. 4.

The value of this series lies not in the critical nature of each review chapter, but in its general usefulness as a reference source. It brings together in one place, all of the work published in a given year in a multitude of journals in the field of organometallic chemistry. Moreover, the speed with which this is done is an added and significant advantage.

In the present issue, the chapters are well written, although like too many review journals, they tend to be comprehensive and non-critical. However, in general the coverage is excellent; I was unable to detect any omissions of significance so that each chapter represents an up-to-date and very complete survey. It is clear, however, that the amount of material to be covered is very large and still increasing rapidly. The subdivision of the material into the above chapter headings is reasonable at the present time, and hopefully will continue to be so, ensuring that it can be used consistently in future years.

The editors are to be congratulated on their diligent work in the rapid production of this very useful annual reference survey.

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