

and how they behave. In that sense it might be regarded as not in the modern style, but I found it refreshingly 'back to real chemistry'.

It has been written by someone who has clearly worked in the field and understands it. I commend it to anyone interested in any aspects of preparative chemistry or non-aqueous solvents. It seems regrettably expensive, which will presumably limit its sales primarily to libraries.

Prof. G. W. A. Fowles

Organometallic Photochemistry

G. L. GEOFFROY and M. S. WRIGHTON
Academic Press Inc. 1979

The authors have designated a twofold purpose for this book, to introduce the fundamentals of electronic structure of organometallic complexes, excited-state processes and the principles of photochemistry, and to provide a comprehensive and critical review of the field. Both parts of this monograph more than satisfy the objectives.

Written in a somewhat abbreviated style, the

survey is very complete and covers the literature through late 1978.

The general impression on reading is the great effectiveness in reporting a considerable amount of organometallic photochemistry work in a very digestible form. The systematic presentation allows a rapid assessment of the appropriate chemical information, and the text is well documented with references to the original literature plus good criticism for a detailed discussion in physico-chemical terms.

The background material is covered in Chapter 1; other Chapters deal with photochemistry of metal-carbonyls, olefin, arene, cyclopentadienyl, isocyanide, hydride, and alkyl complexes. This part is a mine of information, well referenced: through all the chapters the chemical and photochemical properties are discussed and interpreted rather than listed.

The exhaustive content of this book will make it greatly useful to those researchers just entering the field, and it is recommended as a reference for specific information, and as a source of ideas for future work.

The experience of the authors in the field of organometallic photochemistry qualifies them to write an authoritative monograph.

Vittorio Carassiti