

## BOOK REVIEW

**BERNARD LEWIS and GUENTHER VON ELBE, *Combustion Flames and Explosions of Gases*, 3rd Edn. Academic Press, New York, 1987.**

THIS THIRD edition of a book first published in 1951 is a handsome re-issue of a classic work, with modest updatings of particular chapters.

Its authors were always stronger on the chemical than the physical side; not surprisingly therefore, the revisions lie in the former area.

Thus Chapter 4, on the reactions between hydrocarbons and oxygen, contains references to papers published in the

1970s and 1980s; whereas Chapter 14, on internal combustion engines, contains no reference to works published after 1956.

Those of us who began our scientific careers when Lewis and von Elbe led the way in combustion research will be glad to replace our well-thumbed old editions by this excellent new one; but we shall need to lend it to our students less often than formerly.

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