

## BOOK REVIEWS

**New Linear Polymers.** Henry Lee, Donald Staffey, and Kris Neville Eds., McGraw-Hill, New York, 1967. x + 374 pp, illus. \$17.50.

The volume is principally concerned with 10 new linear commercially available polymers or polymer classes, namely, the polyimide, polyamide-imines, polyester-imides, aromatic polyamides, polycycloamides, polybenzimidazoles, polyphenylene oxides, polysulfones, poly(p-xylylenes) and phenoxies. It is organized into an introductory chapter containing a listing of commercially available linear polymers and a discussion of the structural characteristics of these new polymers, which lead to their superior properties, eight chapters covering these new linear polymers, and a final chapter surveying the research polymers which are not commercial but under study. The authors consider the eight chapters dealing with these new polymers as complete and self-contained reviews covering history, chemistry, properties, application methods, and end-uses. In these chapters which are the most important the coverage is quite comprehensive and authoritative. However, the stress is disproportionately on applications and end-uses, with even the discussion of properties couched in terms of applications and end-uses. There is no question as to the importance of the extensive property data quoted, but in terms of producing a more balanced volume, in a scientific sense, less stress in these areas would be in order.

In spite of the comprehensive and authoritative coverage, this volume remains highly specialized and as such must be regarded as a volume suitable for a library, but not normally worth a permanent place on the individual scientist's bookshelf.

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