Identical results were obtained with rats and rabbits. As evident from the described procedure, these results concern total sugar of growing cartilage, *i.e.* free sugars and sugars arising from acid hydrolysis of the polysaccharides.

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BOOK REVIEWS

Comprehensive Analytical Chemistry, Volume IA, *Classical Analysis*, edited by CECIL L. WILSON AND DAVID W. WILSON, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1959, xx + 577 pages, price £ 5.5.0.

The success of RODD'S *"Chemistry of Carbon Compounds"*, which is one of the best texts on organic chemistry, has induced the publishers to promote another very important comprehensive work, this time in the field of analytical chemistry, *viz.* *"Comprehensive Analytical Chemistry"*, edited by CECIL WILSON AND DAVID WILSON.

The first volume of this work deals with classical analysis and part IA of this volume, which appeared recently, comprises six chapters, the first a general introduction, the others devoted to analytical processes, gas analysis, inorganic qualitative analysis, organic qualitative analysis, inorganic gravimetric analysis.

It must be recognized that the task undertaken by the Editors is very difficult owing to the vastness of this work.

A first observation must be made: *"Comprehensive Analytical Chemistry"* should be regarded more as a source of information and literature rather than as a book to be used in the laboratory when performing an analysis in practice.

Only with this in mind can it be understood why, for instance, only two pages are dedicated to countercurrent distribution.

The authors of the different sections have certainly been well chosen, but notwithstanding this the sections do not all appear to be of the same high standard, *e.g.* the treatment of qualitative organic analysis is rather inadequate, no mention being made of systematic methods; in the case of inorganic qualitative analysis it is a pity that the systematic classical separation (according to TREADWELL) has not been mentioned at all, although this volume is specifically devoted to classical analysis. Apart from these shortcomings, understandable owing to the huge task of the Editors,

this book is of a high standard, and for this reason it will be welcomed by all people interested in the progress of chemistry. It can be said that it will constitute a fundamental text in the field of chemical literature.

g.b.m.b. (Rome)

J. Chromatog., 3 (1960) 379–380

Gaschromatographie, by ERNST BAYER, Vol. X of *Anleitungen für die Laboratoriumspraxis*, Springer Verlag, Berlin, 1959, iv + 163 pages, price DM 39.60.

The aim of this book published in Springer Verlag's "*Anleitungen für die Laboratoriumspraxis*" is to provide a practical introduction to the field of gas chromatography. It is divided into four parts:

Part I describes very briefly the theoretical principles underlying gas chromatography and gives only basic concepts. Part II is dedicated to the nature and composition of the columns and Part III to instrumentation: these subjects are treated concisely but adequately for the purpose of the book. Part IV is devoted to the practical applications of gas chromatography. Here the author gives a detailed presentation of the results that have been obtained for various classes of substances and in technical analysis. This part is well organised, carefully planned and gives a broad, but not complete, coverage of most of the experimental data up to 1958.

The field of gas chromatography is developing so rapidly that any book written on this topic soon becomes out of date. For instance, the use of capillary columns, their amazing achievements and their revolutionary influence on instrumentation are only mentioned.

However, this volume fills a long felt need for a simple and easy-to-read book, and it is an exceedingly useful tool for the unskilled beginner and for the qualified gas chromatography technician.

A. LIBERTI (Rome)

J. Chromatog., 3 (1960) 380