

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The field of gas chromatography is developing so rapidly that any book written on this topic soon becomes out of date.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.

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