For each of the reagents listed, the specifications and methods of analysis for principally known impurities are given; for a fewer number of reagents, an assay of the principal constituent is specified.

The procedures for analysis are eminently workable and simple and are so clearly written as to be reliably used by technicians as well as chemists. Most of the procedures are of the classical volumetric or gravimetric type. Where no simple or reliable "wet" method exists, this edition has seen the introduction of several instrumental methods. The flame photometer is used for determining sodium, potassium, calcium and strontium and the ultra-violet and visible spectrophotometer for setting specifications of spectrophotometric solvents.

Other revisions in this 1961 edition include pH meter specifications of the neutrality of 5 % solutions of some 33 different salts; conditions for determination of small amounts of nitrate in 36 salts with the brucine sulfate and diphenylamine tests; extraction techniques for determining small amounts of metals; methods for determination of chlorides, bromides and iodide in the presence of each other and the potentiometric method for determination of water in organic solvents with the Karl Fisher reagent.

One of the extra values of this book is that it serves as a practical, self contained source of analytical methods that may be applied to many chemicals in addition to the 234 reagents listed in the book. As such, this volume is rapidly taking its place on the chemist's laboratory shelf alongside the handbook.

TRUMAN S. LIGHT (Boston, Mass.)

J. Chromatog., 7 (1962) 278–279

Soviet Research in Fluorene Chemistry 1949–1956, published 1959, price $ 45.00.
Soviet Research in Fluorene Chemistry 1957–1958, published 1960, price $ 25.00.
In English translation by Consultants Bureau Enterprises, Inc., New York.

Consultants Bureau Inc. have prepared four volumes of selected Russian papers dealing with all aspects of fluorene chemistry. Only somebody who has tried to survey this field by using *Chemical Abstracts* can appreciate how important complete translations are for an adequate understanding of the work carried out, and Consultants Bureau deserve high praise for having launched their translation service at a time when it was most needed.

Of course the quality of a translation depends on the technical knowledge of the translator and this is rather an exacting standard in the case of scientific papers. These books are, however, far superior to the work of "official translators" who often produce strings of words obtained from a dictionary and bother little about the sense. Indeed in most of the work under discussion the correct chemical idioms are employed; however the phrase "thiocyanogen ions" (Part. II, page 213) for thiocyanate ions should not have escaped the editor.

J. Chromatog., 7 (1962) 279–280

A price of $ 70.00 for 649 pages produced by offset printing and bound in paper backs seems somewhat high, but is no doubt due to the high costs involved in high quality translation rather than in the printing and binding. It is a pity th . it is thus beyond the reach of many individual chemists who would profit from having it on their library shelves.

M. LEDERER (Rome)

J. Chromatog., 7 (1962) 279–280

NEW BOOKS

Transactions of the Symposium on Electrode Processes, Philadelphia, Pa., May 4th–6th, 1959, edited by ERNEST YEAGER, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, London, 1961, xiv + 374 pages, price 160 s.

Les triterpènes tétracycliques, by G. OURISSON AND P. CRABBÉ, Hermann, Paris, 1961, 194 pages, price NF 30.00.

First volume of a series *Chimie des substances naturelles*, edited by EDGAR LEDERER.