

BOOK REVIEW

Organometallic Chemistry; by PETER L. PAUSON, Edward Arnold, London, 1967, vi+202 pages, 50s (paperback 30s).

This book is not aimed at the specialist, but is intended to provide general information for the advanced undergraduate or the postgraduate student. Professor Pauson has succeeded admirably in what he set out to do.

Rightly in such a work, the author does not work systematically through the various sub-Groups of the Periodic Table, but instead outlines general methods of preparation and properties with appropriate examples from the full range of metals (boron, silicon, and phosphorus compounds being excluded). The chapter headings, which give a good indication of the approach adopted, are as follows: Some General Features; Methods of Formation; Properties and Reactions of the Alkyls and Aryls of Metals; Metal Carbonyls, Isonitriles, Cyanides, and Acetylides; μ -complexes; Catalytic Processes. (The last chapter deals with the role of organometallic compounds as catalysts in carbonylation, hydrogenation, polymerization of olefins, etc). Information is given concisely and accurately without unnecessary detail. Literature references are, appropriately, to reviews rather than the original papers.

The book is pleasantly produced, and easy to read. It can be thoroughly recommended.

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