

Book review

Organometallic Chemistry Reviews: Annual Surveys: Silicon — Germanium — Tin — Lead; edited by D. Seyferth and R.B. King (*Journal of Organometallic Chemistry Library* 8), Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company, Amsterdam, U.S. \$ 95.00; D.Fl. 215.00.

This is a further contribution to the series of annual surveys on organometallic chemistry and specifically deals with Si, Ge, Sn, and Pb. The literature coverage is for the year 1977 and deals respectively with: Silicon — synthesis and reactivity, by J.Y. Corey (132 pages, 607 refs.); Organosilicon reaction mechanisms, by F.K. Cartledge (69 pages, 376 refs.); Silicon: bonding and structure, by P.R. Jones (59 pages, 303 refs.); Silicon — application to organic synthesis, by G.M. Rubottom (114 pp., 357 refs.); Germanium, by D. Quane (46 pages, 192 refs.); Tin, by P.G. Harrison (136 pages, 353 refs.) and Lead, by J. Wolters (12 pages, 97 refs.).

There is an author index which allows the reader to identify papers, but not their location in the text.

In his introduction to volume 6 of this series, the editor regretted the omission in the organosilicon survey of the section dealing with the application of organosilicon compounds in organic synthesis for the year 1976. This article is not part of the present volume and therefore, presumably, must be regarded as lost.

In general, practitioners in this area of chemistry will find this volume as useful as its predecessors, although they may be critical of individual sections. For example, in the organotin chapter, Dr. Harrison chose to deal with compounds having Sn—N bonds. His selection of material appears to be a little strange: for instance he devotes more than two pages to a paper dealing with the chemistry of a trimethyltin amide which has no particular features of novelty, but omits others which have greater novelty.

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