

Book review

Organometallic Chemistry — 8; edited by Y. Ishii and N. Hagihara, Pergamon Press, Oxford/New York/Toronto/Sydney/Paris/Frankfurt, 1979, 121 pages, \$ 25.

This volume brings together the Plenary Lectures presented at the Eighth International Conference on Organometallic Chemistry held at Kyoto, Japan, in September 1977. These have all previously appeared in *Pure and Applied Chemistry* 50 (1978), pages 1–64 and 677–742, and, indeed, the book merely brings together reprints from that journal, even retaining the original (non-sequential) page numbers. While such duplication of publication, now unfortunately common IUPAC practice, is generally undesirable, the quality of several of the reviews in the collection is such that a number of organometallic chemists will be glad to have the bound collection available to them. The authors and the titles of their reviews are as follows: R. Hoffmann, T.A. Albright, and D.L. Thorn, "Theoretical aspects of the coordination of molecules to transition metal centers"; M. Ishikawa, "Photolysis of organopolysilanes. Generation and reactions of silicon-carbon double-bonded intermediates"; H. Schmidbaur, "Classical and novel ylide systems in organometallic chemistry"; M.L.H. Green, "Studies on synthesis, mechanism and reactivity of some organo-molybdenum and -tungsten compounds"; A. Nakamura, "Enantioselective reactions through chiral metal-carbene intermediates"; H.C. Clark, "Isocyanide, carbene, and related chemistry of palladium(II) and platinum(II)"; F. Calderazzo, "Synthesis and reactivity of carbon-bonded transition elements"; R. Bau and T.F. Koetzle, "Neutron diffraction studies on transition metal hydride complexes"; G. Wilke, "Organo transition metal compounds as intermediates in homogeneous catalytic reactions"; R.F. Heck, "New applications of palladium in organic syntheses"; M.F. Lappert, "Unusual metal alkyls"; J.F. Normant, "Stoichiometric versus catalytic use of copper(I) salts in the synthetic use of main group organometallics"; O.A. Reutov, "On the mechanisms of substitution reactions of organometallic compounds of nontransition metals"; A.E. Shilov, "Activation of alkanes by transition metal complexes"; M. Tsutsui, "New trends in the chemistry of organometalloporphyrins".

The papers are directly reproduced from typescripts, and inevitably some are especially unpleasing to the eye.

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