

inorganic systems in a very reasonable, but relatively elementary, fashion.

In spite of some limitations, this should provide to be a useful teaching text. Each chapter ends with a list of problems, and this is one of the most valuable features of the book.

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Organometallic Chemistry, Volume 13; E.W. Abel and F.G.A. Stone, Senior Reporters. The Royal Society of Chemistry, 1985, xv + 491 pages. ISBN 0-85186-611-5.

This is the latest in a well known series of books; it covers the literature of organometallic chemistry for the year 1983. The major departures from previous practice are, firstly, that the book is produced by a "camera ready" method and, secondly, that an author index is no longer present.

The coverage of the field is based on the same pattern as in Vol. 12. However, a section has been introduced (as in Vol. 11) on "Organometallic Compounds in Biological Chemistry" (by B. Ridge; this deals also with the 1982 literature and is primarily concerned with B₁₂ systems, or models thereof). New contributors are J.W. Wilson ("Boron with the Exception of the Carbaboranes"), T.R. Spalding ("Carbaboranes, including their Metal Complexes"), W.E. Lindsell ("Organometallic Compounds containing Metal-Metal Bonds"), K.J. Karel and P.L. Watson ("Complexes containing Metal-Carbon σ -Bonds of the Groups Scandium to Manganese"), and D.R. Russell ("Structures of Organometallic Compounds determined by Diffraction Methods").

To cover the whole breadth of organometallic chemistry in a single volume is, of course, a massive task; it can only be achieved within certain limitations in a somewhat staccato fashion. As for the new method of presentation, one difficulty with providing the camera ready copy, apart from the obvious one of it being less attractive for the reader, is that authors no longer have an opportunity to spot mistakes which they made in their manuscripts by correcting them at the proof stage. For instance, I notice that on page 310 there are several errors in the references (in the spelling); furthermore, the abbreviations used by journals for different authors are no longer uniform, as can again be seen by comparing, for example, page 310 with page 373.

The field, of course, is growing at an incredible rate. This is nowhere more obvious than in the section dealing with X-ray structures. Dr. Russell mentions 1409 structures which have been described in 1074 papers.

This series continues to be invaluable.

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