

little critical comment. One has the impression that assertions made by authors in the literature are accepted without question. As a result, there are some curiosities; for example, when writing on page 48 of carboxylic acids, there is the phrase "the proton, owing to its small size, is located within the electron shell of one of the oxygen atoms (668, 669)." Other odd statements taken at random from the book are: "An interesting feature of metal carboxylates is their tendency to form metal-metal bonds, . . .", "Electron diffraction or microwave spectroscopy has been used for liquid or gaseous samples", and "Carboxylic acids have two resonance forms which give equivalent ions."

Despite these reservations, this is a useful book of reference.

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JOURNAL OF ORGANOMETALLIC CHEMISTRY, VOL. 262, No. 1

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