stereochemical aspects of the macrocyclic and cryptate effects. These first two chapters are extremely well written, and will be valuable not only to workers in the field, but also to tyros and for the teaching of graduate courses. The final article (K.E. Matthes and D. Parker; 40 pages; 100 refs.) echoes the first in describing stereochemical aspects of macrocyclic complexes, but focuses only on transition metal complexes: it is little more than an uncritical crystallographic catalogue of the macrocyclic complexes of the second and third row transition metals, with significant overlap with the first (much more scholarly and critical) review, and rather poorly illustrated.

It is appropriate, at this point, to compare this volume with Synthesis of macrocycles — The design of selective complexing agents. Progress in macrocyclic chemistry, Volume 3, edited by R.M. Izatt and J.J. Christensen, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1987, xi + 447 pages, £57.50; ISBN 0-471-82589-1, the subject of the preceding review. Although the cynosure of Bernal's volume is stereochemistry and of Izatt and Christensen's is synthesis, they both share macrocycles as their raison d'être. Izatt and Christensen's volume is type-set, contains seven meritorious chapters, has a very good author and subject index, and sells at £0.129 per page. Bernal's volume is camera-ready copy production, contains only two useful chapters, has no author index and no combined subject index (surely the editor could have taken the minimal effort to combine the indexes from each chapter into a more useful form?), and sells at £0.228 per page. Both volumes contain excellent features, and I am sure that all macrocyclic chemists will need access to them. However, if your library is short of funds (a not inconceivable position!), it is quite clear which volume should be purchased, and which should be borrowed by inter-library loan.

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Dictionary of Organometallic Compounds: Third Supplement; edited by J.E. Macintyre, Chapman and Hall, London etc., 1987, xiii + 604 pages, £155.00, ISBN 0-412-26340-8.

This third supplement to this a well-regarded dictionary primarily extends the literature coverage to mid-1986, but there are also numerous references to 1987 publications. Many compounds appear for the first time, but some entries are updates of those in previous volumes; a good feature is that each updated entry contains all the relevant information from the earlier version, so that it is not necessary to go back to the other volumes. There are clear indexes by name, formula, and Chemical Abstracts Registry Number, and these incorporate the entries from earlier volumes. There is also a very useful list of books and reviews, mainly from 1985–1987, dealing with general aspects of organometallic chemistry or with compounds of specific elements or groups of elements.

The Dictionary has already become established as a major primary reference work for organometallic chemists and for organic chemists contemplating use of organometallic reagents. It is beautifully produced, and reasonably priced. Chemical reference libraries that do not subscribe to it should seriously consider doing so now. Access to all the entries in this dictionary (and the much larger number in the companion Dictionary of Organic Compounds) is available on-line from DIALOG (File 303) under the data-base code name HEILBRON.

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