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Book reviews

Tritium and Its Compounds; by A.E. Evans, Butterworths, London, 2nd Edn., 1974, xv + 822 pp., £18.00.

This is a considerably expanded second edition of an established reference book which first appeared in 1966. It presents detailed account of the uses of tritium and its compounds, and of the special techniques involved. There is a wealth of information, and one chapter, that on uses of tritium compounds, has 1418 references. There is only scant treatment of theory (e.g. of isotope effects), and the book is primarily intended as a guide to practice.

Where the book deals with that aspect of tritium chemistry with which I am not familiar, viz. acid-catalyzed aromatic hydrogen exchange, the references cease at 1966, although much important work has been done since then. Elsewhere, at some points references run into 1974.

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Chemical Analyses of Organometallic Compounds. Vol. 2, Elements of Group IVA-B; Vol. 3, Elements of Group IVB; by T.R. Crompton; Academic Press, London/New York/San Francisco, 1974, Vol. 2, x + 163 pp., £5.00, U.S. \$ 13.25; Vol. 3, x + 211 pp., £6.50, \$ 17.25.

These two volumes complete the series initiated by the volume on Elements of Groups I - III which was reviewed in this Journal earlier this year [86 (1975) C51]. They are of the same high quality, and once again are concerned not just with determinations of elements and of functional groups, but also with chromatographic separation of compounds, and briefly with spectroscopic characteristics. Currently topical applications receive special attention, e.g. determinations of organotin compounds in plastics, foodstuffs, wood, textiles, air and water, and of alkyllead compounds in petroleum and in the air. Volume 2 deals with Group IVA (Ti, Zr, Hf, Th) and with silicon, and Volume 3 with germanium, tin, and lead.

All three volumes will be of considerable general value in laboratories of organometallic chemistry as well as of special interest to analytical chemists.

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