

BOOK REVIEW

ION EXCHANGERS IN ORGANIC AND BIOCHEMISTRY. Edited by Calvin Calmon and T. R. E. Kressman. Pp. xii + 761 (including Index). Interscience Publishers, 1957. London, 124s.; New York, \$15.00.

This is a comprehensive survey of the field indicated by the title, in which 37 authors, mostly from Great Britain and the United States, have written 37 chapters which, together with their bibliographies, give a complete account of developments in the ion exchange field, up to the date of publication. The editors have succeeded in correlating the diverse material so as to form a reasonably connected story.

The first nine chapters forming Parts I and II, contain a general survey of ion exchange materials and techniques, giving a good introduction to the subject for a reader who has had no previous experience with these reagents. The remaining chapters, Part III of the book, deal with specific applications. These cover the ion exchange properties of bone, of cells and of tissues, the use of ion exchange methods in virology and bacteriology, the separation of amino acids, peptides, proteins, nucleic acids, hormones, carbohydrates and the components of urine. Other sections deal with the use of ion exchange techniques in studies of enzymes and of blood, and their application in plant physiology and chemistry. There are chapters of particular interest to pharmacists, concerned with the applications of these versatile materials to pharmacy and medicine in general, to the purification and analysis of antibiotics, alkaloids and vitamins. In addition there are reviews of the purification of water and sugars and of the treatment of alcoholic beverages, fruit juices, milk and milk products.

The subject-matter is well presented in a readable form and each chapter forms a review of its subject, complete with copious references to the literature. This book should be included in the library of anyone who is concerned with the use of ion exchange resins.