

shape of the nucleus is only one of the methods of indicating the vibration or oscillation which was first proposed by Kekulé for the benzene structure, and is of interest now in another connection. These formulas represent all the possible structures produced by the making and breaking of bonds, each make and break causing a definite absorption band. This conception of make and break *between* the atoms in the molecule being responsible for the absorption bands is not far removed from the physicist's conception of the motion of the electron *within* the atom or molecule being responsible for the optical phenomena.

In Appendix A, the *Relations of Stereochemistry to Physiology* are discussed briefly, and in Appendix B, directions are given for the construction of stereochemical models.

This book is fully up to the best of the other volumes of the series, and is indispensable to every organic chemist. Exception may be taken to the statement on page 41 that the solid racemic compound possesses a molecular weight double that of one active component, when as a matter of fact, practically nothing is known of the molecular weight of any substance in the solid state.

The proof-reading has been well done, very few misprints being noticeable, the most serious being on page 14, where the length of the liquid layer for the specific rotation is given as centimeters instead of decimeters. The expression is given correctly in the foot-note on page 122.

K. G. FALK.

Book of Chemical Labels. Prepared by HERMON RAYMOND WOOD. New York: The Kny-Scheerer Co. Price, 35 cts.

A book of about five hundred gummed labels bearing the names and formulae of the chemical substances which are most commonly used in the laboratory, one label for each substance. The labels are mostly satisfactory, but the following errors have been noticed: Calcium hydrate, sodium hydrate, potassium hydrate, potassium persulphate, KSO_4 . The chief objection to such a set of labels for laboratory use is that a large number of a few of the labels is usually required and only a small number of the majority.

W. A. N.