

lated information. My only complaint is minor: a compilation of commercially available items such as ion gages and bakeable valves, preferably with prices, would have been highly useful. (Such a compilation is to be found by G. Ehrlich, *Advan. Catalysis*, 14, 421 (1963).)

The book also contains chapters on the generation of clean surfaces and their properties and a chapter on miscellaneous applications. I found these chapters somewhat less useful; they do little more than to provide the nonexpert with the briefest of introductions to various topics, like field and ion emission microscopy, low energy electron diffraction, and so on. However, they do round out and give some perspective to the book, and I suppose I should not grumble. The general and chapter references are very good, and all in all this should be of great help to the large variety of scientists and engineers concerned in one way or another with ultrahigh vacuum.

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF METALS  
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60637

ROBERT GOMER

**Invitation to Chemical Research.** By E. EMMET REID, Ph.D., LL.D., Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University. Franklin Publishing Co., Inc., Palisade, N. J. 1961. xviii + 366 pp. 15 × 22 cm. Price, \$10.60.

In this book Dr. Reid has distilled from the experience of his seven decades of chemical research and teaching the personal essence of the motivations, demands, and rewards of chemical research. The first six of his twenty-two chapters are general in nature, "Research the Basis of Progress," "The Development of Research," "Incentives," "Finding Problems," "Attacking a Problem," and "Research by Undergraduates." Chapters 7 through 13 deal with specific topics in organic chemistry that make one wonder if the book might have been more definitively titled, "Invitation to *Organic* Chemical Research." Chapters 15 through 21 deal with various aspects of the chemical literature, its use, its organization, its resources, placing emphasis on the inspirational and time-saving features of this essential of scientific investigation. The twenty-second, and last, chapter is entitled "Reporting Results" and is concerned with both the obligation to publish and the form of its presentation.

The style of the book is sprightly and is epitomized by its opening clause, "It has been great to have been living in this amazing half century. . . ." Throughout the writing is simple, straightforward, and unaffected.

There is difficulty in determining the exact audience for whom the book was specifically written. Dr. Reid makes it "a personal invitation to you and you and you. . ." but is the "you" the undergraduate of Chapter 6 or the teachers of p. 91? It is my own opinion that the book can be relished by, and a stimulation to, those of experience in the field. It is difficult to take broad cuts from so much experience and still have a volume that can be held in one hand!

In wondering whether Dr. Reid has taken perhaps too materialistic a point of view in much that he says about the returns from research, one must remember that chemistry is, after all, dealing with things about which there are ideas rather than with pure ideas. The references cited are from a broad selection, and there are contributed essays by many authors in their fields of specialization. It is rare today to find special contributions from the late Ira Remsen (pp. 2 and 37).

Dr. Reid's book is a unique record of the sources of stimulation of a spirit that has sought to answer questions for itself for many years and to give to others, his students, the students of his students, chemists in training and in industry, a feeling of the joy that he has had in his chosen profession and the promise that they might have it as well.

AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY  
AGRICULTURAL CENTER  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

JACKSON P. ENGLISH

**Intermediary Metabolism in Plants.** By DAVID D. DAVIES, Division of Food Preservation, C.S.I.R.O., Sydney, Australia. Cambridge University Press, 32 East 47th St., New York 22, N. Y. 1961. xii + 108 pp. 14.5 × 22 cm. Price, \$4.00.

This little book was apparently written to introduce students in an honors botany course at the University of London to the

knowledge and problems of metabolic pathways, their nature, basis, and interaction. Evidently not a substitute for a good thorough biochemistry introductory text, it is questionable whether the book will serve well as a provocative introduction and commentary to the unsolved questions regarding control, direction, regulation, and interaction of metabolic paths.

One shortcoming of the book is discursiveness; another is poor organization of which the lack of chapter subheadings and prefatory and summary statements seem to be a symptom. The first chapter "Metabolic Patterns and Cellular Organization" is an example. The first paragraph presents the view that the organization of a multi-enzyme system depends on the substrate specificity of the enzymes. Without further explanation, there follow six pages of a poorly documented exposition of enzyme kinetics, the apparent purpose of which is to show that one step in a sequence of reactions may be rate-limiting. Next, there are two pages on product inhibition and feed-back effects on rate of reaction, and, then, three pages giving a detailed summary of Vennesland's work on the stereospecific hydrogen transfer of NAD. Next, several pages briefly summarize the Krebs' cycle, the photosynthetic carbon cycle, and the pentose phosphate pathway. Finally, there are some remarks on "branching points" in metabolism and the rates of competing reactions. Although these various topics can be pertinent to the determination of "metabolic patterns" (the bearing on "cellular organization" is less easy to comprehend), the order of presentation, and the lack of guidance in the transition from one topic to the next, make it difficult for the reader to follow the author's logic. The remaining chapters—"Organization and Structure," "Bioenergetics," "Catabolism," "Anabolism," "Links between Metabolic Pathways," "Conclusion"—provide similar difficulties, due to the unemphasized and unanticipated shifts of topic.

Books dealing with the problems of metabolic control and the interaction of pathways are needed, especially for biochemistry and biology students who have mastered a general biochemistry course. One wishes for a better organized, more deliberate text than the one reviewed here.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER  
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

THOMAS T. BANNISTER

**High Pressure Physics and Chemistry. Volumes 1 and 2.**

Edited by R. A. BRADLEY, Department of Inorganic and Structural Chemistry, The University, Leeds, England. Academic Press, Inc., Ltd., Berkeley Square House, Berkeley Square, London, W1, England. 1963. (1) xi + 444 pp.; (2) 361 pp. 16.5 × 23.5 cm. Price, (1) \$15.50; (2) \$12.50.

These two volumes contain perhaps the most comprehensive review attempted for the field of high pressure since Bridgman's classic monograph some thirty years ago.

In Volume 1 the topics treated most completely are: properties of compressed gases, spectroscopy of liquids and solids, equations of state at relatively high pressures, and electrical properties of metals and semiconductors. In each of these sections a reasonable review of theory is given, and all but the equations of state chapters give a good comparison with experiment. Any one of these sections would form an excellent starting place for an experimentalist entering the field or changing the direction of his high pressure research.

There are briefer or less complete discussions of techniques in general, of compressibility and transport in liquids, of phase changes, of superconductivity, of the properties of water, and of diffusion in solids. The last two sections in particular, although brief, are very elegantly done.

Volume 2 contains, first, a long discussion of the applications of high pressure in the earth sciences, especially of the chemistry of the crust and upper mantle. The emphasis is on geochemical rather than geophysical phenomena.

The following three chapters contain a thorough and well written discussion of chemical equilibria and chemical kinetics at high pressure. These will be of considerable interest and value to the experimental chemist or engineer.

The final major section of the volume contains a very clear and extensive coverage of shock wave phenomena. This chapter is particularly well illustrated. The authors have brought this rather esoteric technique within the understanding of any interested scientist. Finally, there are brief sections on radio spectroscopy, on X-ray techniques, and on miscellaneous topics.