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New Books

(Continued from page 29)

Organic Reactions, Vol. 10, Roger Adams, editor-in-chief (John Wiley and Sons Inc., 563 pp., 1959, \$12). Since 1942, when the first volume of "Organic Reactions" was born, organic chemists have looked forward to each succeeding blessed event, which has averaged one offspring every two years. We hope the editors, publishers, and contributors can maintain their interest and vigor and keep the family growing. The present volume could well be named "The Activated Carbon-Hydrogen Bond."

Volume 10 contains the usual high-quality discussion of important organic reactions. Three are covered here, namely, The Coupling of Diazonium Salts with Aliphatic Carbon Atoms, by S. M. Parmerter; The Japp-Klingemann Reaction, by R. R. Phillips; and The Michael Reaction, by E. D. Bergmann, D. Ginsburg, and R. Pappo. As one might expect, the Michael reaction, which is such an important and well-known synthetic reaction in all areas of organic chemistry, comprises most of the book (pp. 179–555.) The cover-

age is encyclopedic, and the chapter is a mine of information and ideas for lipid chemists (as well as organic chemists in general).

The chapters on the coupling of diazonium salts with aliphatic carbon atoms (pp. 1-142) and on the Japp-Klingemann reaction (pp. 143-178) complement each other. The latter is a special case of the coupling of diazonium salts with an activated carbon-hydrogen bond in which the coupling product undergoes solvolysis as rapidly, or almost as rapidly, as it is formed. Organic chemists interested in active methylene chemistry would do well to re-examine these relatively little-known reactions as well as the Michael reaction.

This reviewer's feelings are best summarized by the cliche, "no organic chemists or library can afford to be without this book" (and the preceding nine volumes of the series). The combination in one book of the scope and mechanisms involved in a reaction, workable reaction conditions, and tables of actual cases studied is invaluable.

Daniel Swern, Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, Philadelphia, Pa.

A LABORATORY MANUAL OF CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY, by F. T. G. Prunty, R. R. McSwiney, and J. B. Hawkins (Pergamon Press, New York, 260 pp., 1959, \$5.50). This is a compilation of more than 70 commonly used, analytical clinical chemistry methods. The treatment of the chapters is such that it forms an excellent review for the more experienced worker yet provides a brief but sufficiently lucid outline of principles and methods for the technician.

The book contains several preliminary sections on basic chemical manifestations, apparatus, sample collection techniques and ranges for components of human blood, serum, urine, and feces. This is followed by a descriptive analytical section, dealing with such determinations as trypsin, sugar, 17-ketosteroids, vitamin A and carotene, salicylates, pyruvate metabolism, phosphatase, protein-bound iodine, pharphobilinogen, hexosamine, diestase in plasma, etc.

The methods chosen by the authors lend themselves to routine determination and do not require much in the nature of special equipment or advanced technical skills. The clinician will welcome this manual as an up-to-date supplement for his obsolescent text.

B. R. Zeitlin, General Foods Corporation, Tarrytown, N.Y.

Obituaries

George O. Daniel (1916), works superintendent, Wesson Oil and Snowdrift Company Inc., Memphis, Tenn., died January 5, 1960.

- N. J. Gothard (1940), chief chemist, Sinclair Refining Company, Harvey, Ill., died February 21, 1960.
- W. G. McLeod (1916), retired manager, Harchem Division, Wallace and Tiernan Inc., Dover, O., died March 6, 1960, of a heart attack in his new home in White Stone, Va. He had been president of the American Oil Chemists' Society in 1941 and served a total of six years on the Governing Board. He had been a member of such committees as sampling, membership, oil characteristics, and the Referee Board.
- R. H. Rogers Jr. (1940), head of the soap research division, Swift and Company, Chicago, since 1952, died February 29, 1960, of cancer. He was born in 1912 and received his B.A. degree in 1933 from Emory University. He had been with Swift since 1935, first in Moultrie, Ga., then in Chicago. From 1940 to 1948 he was head chemist in the Newark, N.J., plant; in 1948 he came back to Chicago as head chemist. He was president of the North Central Section of the Society in 1957 and had much to do with the establishment of the Bailey Award in 1959.

Theodore Schwarz (1946), consulting chemical engineer, Macon, Ga., died February 19, 1960. He had originally joined the Society in 1928 when superintendent of Cia. Industrial Jabonera de la Laguna, S.C.L., Mexico City. He was a fellow of the Royal Institute of Chemistry, London.