

NEW BOOKS

ADVANCES IN CHROMATOGRAPHY, Vol. 3, edited by J. Calvin Giddings and Roy A. Keller (Marcel Dekker, Inc., 271 p., 1966, \$11.50).

Volume 3 of *Advances in Chromatography* broadens the scope of a series already diverse in subject matter. The excellent overall format and style are identical to those of Volumes 1 and 2, the book being divided into two sections, one dealing with aspects of general chromatography and one with topics related only to gas-liquid chromatography. It includes discussions of isotopic fractionation, adsorption chromatography, the history of thin-layer chromatography, chromatography as a natural process in geology (an extension of an article in Volume 2), and three papers on gas-liquid chromatography: chromatographic support, electrolytic conductivity detection, and preparative columns (including theoretical aspects of large-diameter columns). Valuable evaluations of current trends and speculations on possible future developments are presented by the authors, who have themselves made notable contributions to each subject area.

The article on the history of thin-layer chromatography is especially noteworthy as a timely departure from the "advances," since the rapid growth of automation and modification in thin-layer chromatography has at times masked the simplicity inherent in the technique. This is the first time that the original papers by Izmilov and Schraiber and by Stahl describing their initial studies have appeared in English translation. The series as a whole comprises a rich resource of information for students and others attempting to keep abreast of the most recent developments in specialized fields of chromatography.

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LANGUAGE OF THE SPECIALISTS, edited by Mario Pei (Funk and Wagnalls, p. xii + 388, 1966, \$7.50).

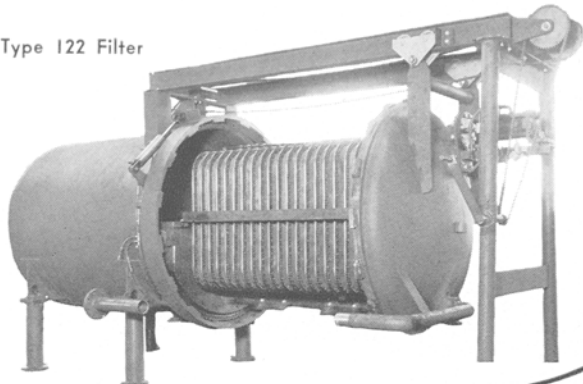
The editor in his introduction states that of the approximately one million words in the English language, the "average cultivated man" uses only 30,000 words and recognizes about 60,000 more. The idea behind this book was to have a group of authors representing 20 different disciplines define the vocabulary of their specialty, hoping not only to increase our vocabulary by approximately 3,000 more words, but also to make it easier for one specialist to communicate with the specialist in another field. Each chapter begins with a four- to six-page discussion followed by a dictionary of words and definitions. There is no index or cross-reference but only a table of contents listing the chapter titles and authors; thus it is not possible to use this book as a reference book to find the meaning or usage of a particular word.

The specialties dealt with are quite diverse, ranging from Biochemistry and Astronomy through Sociology and Construction to Theater, Music and Military Affairs. As each chapter was written by a different author the quality and style varies considerably. The choice of words and definitions at the end of each chapter ranges from the obvious and common ("junta", "crime", "bulldozer", "tribe") to the uncommon, at least to this reviewer, ("Einstellung", "neoting", "orphic cubism").

It is difficult to see how this book will significantly aid in the communication between people. It does not replace a good dictionary. The book does however provide one with some interesting browsing material. It is possible that a non-professional or high school reader could find the short discussions and vocabulary usage a valuable aid in understanding something about various professions.

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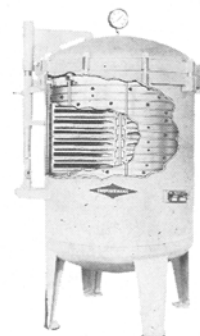
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