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"Physical Chemistry of Cleansing Action" by H. Lange, Henkel & Cie, G.m.b.H., Düsseldorf, Germany, defines cleansing as the removal of dirt or soil from objects or living beings. He then describes the mechanisms in both aqueous and dry cleaning systems.

"Pharmaceutical Applications and Physiological Aspects of Solubilization" by Lars Sjöblom, Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacy, Åbo Akademi, Åbo, Finland, examines surfactants used as antiseptics, and disinfectants and in conjunction with essential oils, alkaloidal and glycosidal drugs, fat soluble vitamins and hormonal steroids. He also comments on the toxicity of surfactants.

"Surfactants in Pesticidal Formulations" by Wade VanValkenburg, The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan, specializes on the preparation of stable emulsions via the HLB system, their properties and applications as insecticides, herbicides and fungicides.

"Emulsion Polymerization" by B. M. E. van der Hoff, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, concludes the book with a discussion of emulsion polymerization, its initiation, particle formation, propagation and termination and the roles of diffusion.

The book is well documented with over 1000 references, has an author and subject index and is well illustrated with 42 tables, 120 figures and 3 electron microscope photographs.

The book is highly recommended to the fundamental researcher and the work in the applied field of surfactant chemistry.

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"NONIONIC SURFACTANTS," Volume 1 of Surfactant Science Series, edited by Martin J. Sebeck, published by Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, 1085 pages, 1967.

The physical format of the book is excellent. Starting with graphs which are easy to follow, a broad subject index preceding each chapter and an extensive subject index which combine to make this book very easy to use.

It would be difficult to compare this book with other works since this is the first time all the facets of nonionic surfactant synthesis, properties and applications has been brought under one cover.

The book is divided into four main sections covering the organic, physical, analytical and biological chemistry of all classes of nonionic surfactants. The first section discusses the organic chemistry of all classes of nonionic surfactants covering their syntheses, applications and structural influence on detergency. The second section of the book deals with the physical chemistry of nonionic surfactants covering such subjects as surface films, micelle formation, solubilization, emulsification, dispersion stability, detergency, foaming and polyoxyethylene chain configuration. The third section covers the instrumental and chemical methods currently used for the separation and analysis of nonionic surfactants. The last section of the book deals with two important subjects, toxicity and biodegradation of nonionic surfactants.

Each chapter is well coordinated with the rest of the book showing a uniformity of presentation and evidence of good editing. The treatment of each subject ranges from the theoretical to the practical as shown by the complex discussion of micelle formation in Chapter 16 to the practical suggestions of cleaning formulations in many of the other chapters. Most of the contributors expertly skirted the prolific use of trade names and when they did use them they were preceded by a descriptive chemical name.

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