

BOOK REVIEWS

The Organic Chemistry of Tin; by W. P. Neumann, London/New York/Sydney/Toronto, Wiley-Interscience, 1970, xiv + 282 pages. £5.50. (Series: *The Chemistry of Organometallic Compounds*; Ed. by D. Seyferth.)

This book can be confidently recommended. It is thorough and clear, and also readable (for which substantial credit must undoubtedly go to the translator, Dr. W. Moser, as well as the author). While more general readers can choose between this volume and that by R. C. Poller (see *J. Organometal. Chem.*, 29 (1971) C23), those concerned with research in organotin chemistry will certainly need both, because they are in many respects complementary. Professor Neumann is rather less concerned with generalizations and mechanisms than Professor Poller, but gives more factual information, which is presented in a well organized form. In addition to the expected chapters on various types of organotin compounds, there are interesting and useful accounts of Analysis of Organotin Compounds, Spectroscopic Investigation, Toxicity of Organotin Compounds, and Technology and General Applications. The book is authoritatively written, and will undoubtedly serve as a standard work for some years.

C. Eaborn

Methoden der Organischen Chemie (Houben-Weyl). Band XXI/1. Metallorganische Verbindungen, Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs, Cu, Ag, Au; Ed. by E. Müller, O. Bayer, H. Meerwein and K. Ziegler; Stuttgart, Georg Thieme Verlag, 1970, xxiv + 904 pages, DM 336.

There is little that need be said about this volume except that it fully maintains the high standards of the series in which it appears and is of exceptional interest to organometallic chemists.

The coverage mainly follows the pattern well-established for this series, with concentration on detailed specific examples of procedures, but there is a less expected, and very good, chapter on "C-H Acidity" by H. F. Ebel. The other chapters are: "Properties, Handling, and Analysis of Organo-alkali Metal Compounds" (U. Schöllkopf), "Organolithium Compounds" (U. Schöllkopf), "Organo-sodium, -potassium, and -caesium Compounds" (H. F. Ebel and A. Lüttringhaus), "Organocopper Compounds" (G. Bähr and P. Burba), "Organogold Compounds" (G. Bähr and P. Burba). Appropriate 1968 and a few 1969 references are included. There are the usual very good indexes.

In view of the considerable use made of organic derivatives of the alkali metals by almost all organometallic chemists, this volume is indispensable for the library of any laboratory engaged in organometallic research.

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