

BOOK REVIEW

The Organic Chemistry of Palladium, Volume I, Metal Complexes; by P. M. Maitliss, xvi+319 pages. Academic Press, New York and London, 1971. Price \$19.00.

Twenty years ago the organometallic chemistry of the transition elements could have been described in detail in about twenty octavo pages. Now, that of palladium alone needs two volumes of which this is the first. The organometallic chemistry of palladium is an important subject because it is the basis of useful catalytic processes. In this book it is brought together somewhat after the style of the Annual Reports of the Chemical Society, but in greater detail. The organic chemistry of palladium is reviewed and compared critically and in detail with that of the neighbouring elements, especially rhodium, nickel and platinum. Palladium is highly versatile in the transformations it can bring about, and of compounds it can form from quite simple unsaturated organic substances. To collect this chemistry together from its widely scattered sources, collate it and present it so clearly is no mean feat. It represents an enormous amount of work by Professor Maitliss and will save newcomers to the field many hours of literature searching. Only the complexes, their reactions and comparisons are given in this volume; their use in catalysis will appear in volume II. This book gives 886 references, has a good author index of about 20 pages, and a subject index of 8 pages.

J. Chatt

ERRATUM

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Page C53, 1st paragraph, line 1 should read:

Ethylzinc acetylacetonate (EtZnacac) is stable in boiling benzene in which it occurs

2nd paragraph, line 1 should read:

The NMR spectrum of (I), taken at room temperature in benzene, shows only a

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