

BOOK REVIEW

The Chemistry of Organotin Compounds; by R. C. Poller, Logos Press, London, 1970, ix + 315 pages, £6.00.

In this book Dr. Poller provides a good account of organotin chemistry, which offers both a valuable introduction for the newcomer to the field and a useful survey of its present state of development for the specialist research worker. It does not attempt to give a comprehensive account of all the variations of known reactions (and could not possibly be so without being very much longer), but no important general type of reaction is omitted. Indeed the book is packed with information, which is presented in such a way that the book can be read continuously without effort.

The chapter titles are (1) Some preliminary considerations, (2) Compounds with four organic groups attached to a tin atom, (3) Cleavage of tin-carbon bonds, (4) Organotin halides and pseudohalides, (5) Organotin oxides, hydroxides and other compounds containing Sn-O bonds, (6) Compounds containing tin-nitrogen bonds, (7) Organotin hydrides, (8) Compounds containing tin-sulphur bonds, (9) Compounds containing tin-metal bonds, (10) Organotin esters, (11) Organotin compounds as Lewis acids, (12) The structure of organotin compounds, (13) Physical measurements, (14) Biological effects and consequent applications, and (15) Applications based upon chemical properties. The last two chapters will be especially useful to chemists concerned with applications of organotin compounds.

Accounts of proposed reaction mechanisms are brief and non-critical, but clear references to the original studies are provided. The literature is covered systematically to the end of 1968 and several 1969 references are included. There is a wholly satisfactory subject index, but no author index.

The book represents good value, and can be recommended with confidence to libraries and individuals.

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