

## BOOK REVIEWS

---

*Reduction; Techniques and applications in organic synthesis*; edited by R. L. AUGUSTINE. Marcel Dekker, New York, 1968, x + 242 pages, \$12.75.

This book is the second volume of the series "*Techniques and applications in organic chemistry*". The contents are much more restricted than the title would suggest. In fact three topics only are reviewed. The first (by M. N. Rerick), of particular interest to organometallic chemists, covers reductions using the wide variety of reagents produced by the addition of boron trifluoride, aluminium chloride, etc. to lithium aluminium hydride or sodium borohydride. M. Smith usefully reviews the uses of dissolving metal reductions and in the final chapter W. Reusch has surveyed the deoxygenation of carbonyl compounds, covering the Wolff-Kishner and Clemmensen reductions and desulphurisation.

The emphasis throughout is on the applications of the reactions to use in synthetic work and mechanistic aspects are treated only briefly. Numerous examples of typical experimental procedures are given throughout the book, and are printed in bold face type.

This book will be a most useful laboratory reference book for anyone involved in organic synthesis.

R. D. GUTHRIE