

BOOK REVIEW

Reactions of transition metal complexes; by J. P. CANDLIN, K. A. TAYLOR AND D. T. THOMPSON, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1968, xvi + 483 pages, Dfl. 85.—.

This is a timely volume, which will be found useful by progressive organic chemists as well as by inorganic and organometallic chemists.

The book is divided into three parts, *viz.* (1) types of reaction of transition metal compounds, (2) reactivity of classes of reagents with transition metal complexes, and (3) preparation of new organic systems. The first part deals generally with characteristics and mechanisms of substitution and of combination reactions, oligomerization, insertion, and redox reactions. The second part describes the reactions with transition metal complexes of hydrocarbons, organic halides, anions such as RO^- , HO^- , CN^- , and H^- , hydrogen, protons, and inorganic compounds, with emphasis in this last class on Group IV compounds, nitrogen derivatives, phosphines, arsines, stibenes, Group VI compounds, the halogens, and mercury compounds. The third part, only 19 pages long, provides a summary of the important and rapidly-developing field of the stabilization in complexes of normally unstable organic structures. There are good reaction and subject indices.

The book, which is directed towards postgraduate students and research workers, systematizes a very large body of previously fragmented information. References extend into 1966, but with the subject developing so rapidly it is to be hoped that the authors are already collecting material for the second edition.

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