

## Book review

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*Topics in Phosphorus Chemistry, Vol. 7*; ed. by E.J. Griffith and M. Grayson, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1972, vii + 444 pages, \$35.00.

Some aspects of organophosphorus chemistry overlap with the general content and the spirit of organometallic chemistry, and, indeed, the "Journal of Organometallic Chemistry" publishes selected papers devoted to such aspects of organophosphorus chemistry. The review series "Topics in Phosphorus Chemistry" covers both organic and inorganic phosphorus chemistry. Since its inception in 1964, this series has published a number of reviews which were of interest and useful to organometallic chemists,

In this, the seventh volume of this series, two review articles will be of general interest to organometallic chemists: "Addition Reactions of Tertiary Phosphorus Compounds with Electrophilic Olefins and Acetylenes", by M.A. Shaw and R.S. Ward, and "Oligophosphonates", by J.D. Curry and D.A. Nicholson. Both reviews are well organized and well written and give a thorough coverage of their stated topics. The first appears to be up to date, with references to 1971. The second, however, only surveys the literature through 1968 and brings the reader to 1971 by means of a supplementary bibliography. This is rather unsatisfactory, especially since this bibliography is not annotated in any useful way.

The other four reviews in this book are: "Nonenzymic Hydrolysis at Phosphate Tetrahedra", by R.K. Osterheld; "Cyclophosphates", by S.Y. Kalliney; "Compilation of Physical Data of Phosphazo Trihalides", by M. Bermann; "Peroxophosphates", by I.I. Creaser and J.O. Edwards. A note of censure goes to M. Bermann for splitting his survey on phosphazo trihalides into two review articles (that mentioned above and "The Phosphazotrihalides") which are published in two different review series (here and in "Advances in Inorganic Chemistry and Radiochemistry", Vol. 14) in the same year. Such fragmentation of publication is unnecessary, undesirable and most irritating to the reader interested in the particular subject.

This volume has a subject index but not an author index. A useful feature is the cumulative index which covers all previous volumes of this series.

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