

Reactions chapters, while the latter provides a useful overview of a complicated field where the literature is littered with inaccuracies and false trails. The emphasis in both these chapters is on reactions which work.

Transition metals are represented by all too brief chapters on carbonyls (H. Alper), nickel and palladium allyls (L. Hegedus), arenes (M. Semmelhack), and carbene complexes (C. Casey), which increase in utility and readability in the order given. The latter two types of complexes have great synthetic potential, which the chapter authors are exploiting; while the former have well developed chemistries unfortunately only sketchily treated here.

Concluding this volume are chapters on two fashionable topics: olefin metathesis (R.H. Grubbs) and hydrometallation (J. Schwartz). Justly, these chapters are heavy with mechanistic considerations, which, given the fluidity and rapidity of development of these subjects, should precede synthetic evaluation. The authors are to be congratulated for stressing practicability.

Overall, this book is praiseworthy for the speed with which it was put together. References to 1976 work abound, publisher and editor deserving high marks for getting into print within three months of the symposium. Also praiseworthy is the selection and coordination of topics, no obvious overlap, and few lacunae, thallium and magnesium were excluded due to thorough treatment elsewhere, but zinc and platinum could have merited chapters. Some odd constructions in the chapters by non-English native speakers, and typographical errors elsewhere can be excused, but offset printing from typescript and the lack of any indices do not excuse the price.

This book should be required reading for all synthetic organic chemists, but because of its topicality will surely become rapidly dated, as new techniques are uncovered, and limitations to present ones found. It is to be hoped a similar symposium will be organized every year or two.

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*Les Composés Thiophosphororganiques*; by L. Amasi, Masson, Paris, New York, Barcelona, Milan, 1976, 352 pages, Fr.f. 250.

Organothiophosphorus compounds are of importance to the organometallic chemist, especially their potential use as ligands, and information about their structure and reactivity is very useful. The book by Amasi provides an excellent source of such information. While the recently published series "Organic Phosphorus Compounds" (Edited by G.M. Kosolapoff and L. Maier) remains the prime source of data on individual compounds, the book by Amasi is the best source for information on classes of organothiophosphorus compounds.

The first part of the book emphasizes bonding and structure-reactivity relationships. The second part deals with various classes of compounds, and the third part is a useful account of the commercial uses of organothiophos-

phorus compounds. There are ca. 3500 references. Clear classifications and nomenclature are used, and an encyclopedic treatment of the subject is given. Those actively engaged in the field and also non-specialists seeking a particular piece of information or a general view of the subject will find it rewarding.

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### Errata

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Page C12

the first line should read:

final discrepancy indices  $R = 0.039$  and  $R_w = 0.040$ .

The molecular structure is shown in

line 8 should read:

138–165° for aryl and alkyl acetylenes [3]. These compare favourably

Page C13, Structure B should read:

