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Book review

Journal of Organometallic Chemistry Library 4, Organometallic Chemistry Reviews; Annual Surveys: Silicon—Tin—Lead; edited by D. Seyferth and R.B. King. Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company, Amsterdam (The Netherlands), viii + 548 pages. Dfl. 134.00 (approx. US \$54.70).

This is the fourth volume of a new hardback series "Journal of Organometallic Chemistry Library", to have appeared.

The larger part of the book (365 pages) is devoted to four articles dealing with organosilicon chemistry: "Synthesis and reactivity" by J.Y. Corey (394 references); "Reaction mechanisms" by O.W. Steward (519 references); "Bonding and structure" by P.R. Jones (271 references); and "Application to organic synthesis" by S.S. Washburne (345 references). This is followed by a substantial article by P.G. Harrison on organotin chemistry (342 references), and by a smaller article (25 pages) on organolead compounds by J. Wolters (174 references). The contributors have major reputations in their fields and write with the authority expected from them.

Annual Surveys has established itself over the years as an important secondary source of literature for the researcher in organometallic chemistry. The present volume maintains earlier high standards, and covers the primary literature for 1975.

The manuscripts are produced by direct photo-reproduction from typescript. It is regrettable that for each of the chapters a different machine is used; the overall aesthetic appeal of the volume is low.

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