

Chemical Analysis of Organometallic Compounds, Vol. 5. Elements of groups VIA, VIB, VIIA, VIIB, aluminium and zinc. By T.R. Crompton, Academic Press, London/New York/San Francisco; 1977, xi + 432 pages, £24.00; U.S. \$46.90.

The fifth book in this now established series of volumes deals with organic derivatives of Cr, Mo, W, U, Se, Te, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Pd, Ru, Al and Zn. As in the earlier volumes, the author describes not only the chemical methods of determining the elements in organometallic compounds, but also direct spectroscopic (and, where relevant, microbiological and radiological) determination of specific organometallic compounds, and chromatographic methods of separation. For example, there are substantial accounts of the determination and separation of haemoglobins and cobalamins, and the account of the analysis of ferrocene includes potentiometric titration, polarography, chromatography (column, paper, thin layer, and gas-liquid), IR, UV, NMR and ESR spectroscopy, mass spectrometry, and X-ray diffraction. There are, of course, wide variations in the amounts of information available for the various elements; thus the account of compounds of aluminium takes up 263 of the 432 pages, while organic compounds of the platinum metals are dealt with in 16 lines. There are good author and subject indices.

This volume, like its predecessors, is a valuable reference work for all those engaged in analysis of organometallic compounds.

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Phosphorus. An Outline of its Chemistry, Biochemistry and Technology.
D. E. C. Corbridge, Elsevier Scientific Publishing Co., Amsterdam, 1978
viii + 456, \$59.60.

Phosphorus forms an enormous number of compounds, many of great practical or biological significance, and every aspect of the chemistry of this element is included in this book. Compressed into its 435 pages of text are discussions of the element itself and of its metallic and non-metallic derivatives, of phosphates both organic and inorganic, of