

## Book review

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*Inorganic syntheses, vol. XIX*, D.F. Shriver, editor-in-chief, Wiley, New York, 1979, xv + 327 pages, \$ 25.

True to tradition the latest volume of "Inorganic Syntheses" has maintained the standard of excellence now familiar with this series. The book is divided into five chapters.

The chapters on transition metal and organometallic compounds are highlighted by the preparations of a variety of bis- and tris-phosphine palladium and platinum complexes and metal-metal bonded dimolybdenum compounds. There are two large sections one on metal carbene complexes which includes some of the more widely studied tungsten species, and one on complexes containing thio-carbonyl ligands. Timely, albeit smaller sections describe the preparation of several metal-olefin and cyclopentadienylzirconium hydride complexes which have already been established as valuable reagents. A chapter on main group compounds includes preparations of a variety of boranes, indium(III) complexes, and iodo- and thio-silanes.

An entire chapter is devoted to metal atom syntheses and includes a description of the design and construction of a simple reaction unit, procedures for its use and comments on frequently encountered experimental problems. Although a variety of interesting preparations are described, it is still clear that they will be of value to only those who have funds to purchase a commercial reactor or have the patience and skill to build their own.

The remaining chapter titled "Electrically Conducting Solids" describes the preparation of a variety of the one dimensional tetracyanoplatinate and chloro-iridium carbonyl mixed valence complexes, tetrathiofulvalenium salts, tantalum disulfide and substituted  $\beta$ -aluminas.

Typographical errors were obvious, but appeared to be harmless. Although the volume will be valuable to inorganic chemists in general, it will probably not find its way into many personal collections because of its scope.

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