

### Book reviews

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*Optical Resolution Procedures for Chemical Compounds. Volume 1. Amines and Related Compounds*; by P. Newmann, Optical Resolution Information Center, Riverdale, N.Y., 616 pages, \$31.50.

This book is the first in a four-volume compendium containing descriptions of over 6000 resolution procedures for organic, inorganic and organometallic compounds. (Organometallic compounds will be dealt with specifically in Volume 4.) The information is mainly provided in the form of photocopies of the relevant experimental sections of papers in journals. There are many excerpts from papers whose titles give no indication that they contain resolutions, and which would thus probably be overlooked in a conventional literature search. The volumes are stated to contain the most complete compilation of resolving agents and specific rotation values for resolved compounds, and to be the only collection of optical resolution procedures, and I can see no reason to doubt these claims. The first volume contains material from 1025 references. Supplements giving details of later advances are planned.

For anyone wishing to undertake new optical resolutions this series will be invaluable. A very great deal of effort has gone into it, it is very modestly priced, and it deserves success. It is to be hoped that its usefulness will not be too greatly limited by the fact that it is not being distributed (and thus widely advertised) by a major publisher; it is available from the Optical Resolution Information Center, Manhattan College, Riverdale, New York 10471, U.S.A. (Postage in U.S.A., \$2.50; outside U.S.A., \$4.50.)

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