

### Book reviews

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*Rodd's Chemistry of Carbon Compounds, Supplements to the 2nd Edition* (Ed. M.F. Ansell), Vol. III, *Aromatic Compounds, Parts B and C*, Elsevier Scientific Publ. Co., Amsterdam-Oxford-New York, 1981, pp. xviii + 358, US\$78.75, Dfl. 185.00.

This additional supplement to a well-established reference work is reviewed here because it includes two chapters, by P.G. Harrison, dealing with aromatic compounds of the main group (22 pages) and transition metals (31 pages), respectively. The accounts are based on publications appearing up to 1979, and are essentially very brief selections of highlights from advances in recent years as judged by the author, along with useful references to relevant books and reviews. (The brevity is exemplified, though perhaps at its extreme, by the fact that less than half a page is devoted to aromatic derivatives of silicon, and mention is made only of methylphenylsilene, tetraphenyldisilene as a species observed in a mass spectrum, and production of arylpolysilanes by cathodic reduction.)

The other topics covered are benzoquinones and related compounds, derivatives of benzenoid hydrocarbons with substituents containing a single nitrogen atom, and nuclear-substituted benzenoid hydrocarbons with more than one nitrogen atom in the substituent group.

*School of Chemistry and Molecular Sciences*  
*University of Sussex,*  
*Brighton BN1 9QJ. (Great Britain)*

COLIN EABORN

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*Gmelin Handbook of Inorganic Chemistry. Sn. Organotin Compounds, Part 8: Organotin Iodides, Organotin Pseudohalides.* By H. Schumann and I. Schumann, Springer-Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York, 1981, pp. xii + 226, DM 677.

In this fine series of handbooks seven volumes devoted to organotin compounds have previously appeared, dealing, respectively, with the mononuclear tin tetraorganyls (3 parts), the mononuclear organotin hydrides, the mononuclear organotin fluorides, the mononuclear organotin chlorides, and the mononuclear organotin bromides. This new volume, which is in English, deals with mononuclear organotin iodides and pseudohalides, the latter group including cyanides, isocyanides (which exist in equilibrium with cyanides), isocyanates (no cyanates are known), fulminates (SnCNO), isothiocyanates (no thiocyanates are known), isoselenocyanates, azides, and sulphinyl imides (SnNSO).