

Book reviews

Coordination Chemistry Reviews, Vols. 34 and 35. Vol. 34 (Ed. D.B. Sowerby), Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1981, vii + 467 pages, Dfl. 210.00 Vol. 35 (Eds. C.D. Garner and K.R. Seddon), Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1981, 268 pages, Dfl. 210.00.

These are relatively new publications from Elsevier. Volume 34 is the 2nd Annual Review of the Chemistry of the Main Group Elements, this time covering publications of 1979. The contributors are members of the Department of Chemistry of the University of Nottingham: M.G. Barker (Group 6), G. Davidson (Group 3), M.F.A. Dove (Groups 5, 7 and 8), P.G. Harrison (Group 4), P. Hubberstey (Groups 1 and 2), D. Sowerby (Group 5). There are more than 2000 references.

Volume 35, together with its companion (Volume 37), which this reviewer has not yet seen) provides a comprehensive coverage of the coordination chemistry of the *d*-transition elements which appeared during late 1978—79. The elements covered are as follows: Iron, by R. Davis, 39 pages; Ruthenium and osmium, by K.R. Seddon, 43 pages; Cobalt, by R.W. Hay, 28 pages; Rhodium and iridium, by D.J. Cole-Hamilton, 30 pages; Palladium and platinum, by F.R. Hartley, 67 pages; Copper, by B.J. Hathaway, 42 pages; Silver, by W. Esen Smith, 5 pages; Gold, by W. Esen Smith, 6 pages. The total number of references exceeds 1700.

It will be evident from the above description that these volumes are in many ways similar to the Specialist Periodical Reports on main group and transition elements, respectively, formerly published by the Chemical Society. There are occasional references in these texts to organometallic compounds, e.g., metal carbonyls, but on the whole such compounds are deliberately excluded.

The appearance of Volume 35 is rather more pleasing from the standpoint of type-face than Volume 34, which though quite legible, is more obviously a photo-reproduction of a typed manuscript.

The volumes are obviously very valuable to chemists active in inorganic chemistry; but not, I think, particularly so to those whose specialisation is organometallic chemistry.

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