

superficial: if there is a fuller account in Volume 6 a simple cross reference would have been helpful to the reader. Quibbles about content are, however, minor. All in all, this book will be a major reference for all working in the field of coordination chemistry and stimulating reading also for organometallic chemists, even though compounds with metal-carbon bonds have been largely excluded. Several of the contributors have completed truly herculean tasks and written chapters of outstanding quality.

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J. David Smith

Comprehensive Coordination Chemistry, Volume 4, Middle Transition Elements. xxii + 1405 pages, ISBN 0-08-035947-7.

This volume surveys the coordination chemistry of the metals Mn to Ir inclusive, with the exception of Tc, a review of which should appear later elsewhere.

The high standards of content and presentation achieved on the companion series "Comprehensive Organometallic Chemistry" have been maintained in this series and the chapters, although multi-authored, are uniformly readable, comprehensive and clearly arranged.

The organometallic content of the various chapters is, by definition, relatively small, although there are some exceptions. For example the alkyls and aryls of manganese receive detailed coverage and the general chemistry of cyanide and isocyanide complexes of all of the metals in question is thoroughly reviewed and referenced. This volume is, nevertheless, recommended general reading for the organometallic chemist, both because of the thorough referencing to organometallic areas, and because of the wealth of chemistry contained in this volume which has close organometallic interest.

The editors and publishers are to be congratulated on their production of a very valuable reference series.

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Comprehensive Coordination Chemistry, Volume 5, Late Transition Elements, xiv + 1258 pages, ISBN 0-08-035948-5

This is the fifth volume of the seven volume series of Comprehensive Coordination Chemistry, dealing with the elements nickel, palladium and platinum, copper, silver and gold, and zinc, cadmium and mercury. This series represents a worthy addition to the growing family of Pergamon reference works.

The volume opens with an extensive chapter on the coordination chemistry of nickel. This is organised primarily according to the oxidation state of the metal, and secondly according to the ligand type. The second chapter, on platinum, divides the