

Man (Chapter VIII—Processing and Handling of Polyethylenes), and the Salesman (Chapter IX—Uses and Applications of Polyethylenes and Chapter X—Statistical Summary).

The authors have endeavored to cover their subject thoroughly. An especial effort to include the most recent information on newer methods of polymerization is most gratifying. As a source book it should stand in good stead with the researcher, student or executive. It is especially good in its description of analytical techniques, test methods, and measurements of physical properties. The bibliography is exhaustive. Typography is good and errors are not readily apparent.

For the rapidly growing polymer in the market, this is an excellent addition to its rapidly growing literature.

PLASTICS DIVISION RESEARCH DEPT.
CELANESE CORPORATION OF AMERICA O. V. LUKE, JR.
SUMMIT, NEW JERSEY

Nomenclature of Chemical Compounds. Edited by Coordination Committee of Documentation and Library Services, Committee on Nomenclature and Editorial Board of the Journal of Japanese Chemistry. Editors-in-Charge, Kenzo Hirayama, Dorothy U. Mizoguchi and Yuichi Yamamoto. Nankodo Publishing Co., Haruki-cho, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan. 1957. x + 368 pp. 19 × 26 cm. Price, \$4.00.

Japanese chemists commonly use the English alphabet and spellings in the reproduction of the names of chemical compounds. Many take an active interest in the careful use of good nomenclature. This has been particularly true since World War II. To this end the Japanese Standing Committee on Nomenclature a few years ago sought permission to translate into Japanese the various chemical nomenclature reports and pamphlets distributed by the Committee on Nomenclature, Spelling and Pronunciation of the American Chemical Society and to publish these in translated form. With a green light from America and with the cooperation of the Japanese Ministry of Education and the UNESCO Office in Tokyo these steps were taken, except that the names themselves were not changed. The Japanese version of these various pamphlets appeared in 1954 in the form of a 250-page paper-bound book which has had an obvious good effect on Japanese chemical literature.

Now a more ambitious book on chemical nomenclature, the one being reviewed, has appeared. This resembles the earlier book inasmuch as it consists in large part of translated nomenclature reports and summaries, but the new book contains also an extensive expository commentary on certain rules, with additional examples, and it covers the field more widely.

The book covers reports of Commissions of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (the commentary mentioned above is on these IUPAC rules), reports of the Nomenclature, Spelling and Pronunciation Committee of the American Chemical Society, certain nomenclature compilations by *Chemical Abstracts*, and one unofficial report (on the naming of stereoisomers). Most of the reproduced reports are in the field of organic chemistry, but inorganic chemistry and biological chemistry are not neglected. One section is devoted to Electromotive Forces and Electrode Potentials.

In some instances the reproduction of nomenclature rules is interspersed with signed discussion, as in the sections on High Polymers, Steroids, Terpene Hydrocarbons and Labeled Compounds.

There are contributed articles on tropoids and azulenes (azulenes) and appendixes on (1) Miscellaneous Chemical Prefixes, (2) Symbols, Signs, and Abbreviations, (3) Pronunciation of Chemical Words, (4) Japanese Transliteration of Chemical Words, and (5) How to Use *Chemical Abstracts*.

There is an index in Japanese and one in English.

Standard nomenclature rules are meant to be followed. Japanese chemists are to be commended for trying to do this and those responsible for this book deserve acclaim for their effective help. For the most part the information of the book is not new, but this information is assembled in a form which is likely to do much for chemical publication in Japan.

CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLUMBUS 10, OHIO

MARY A. MAGILL
E. J. CRANE

Gmelins Handbuch der Anorganischen Chemie. Calcium Teil A. Geschichtliches, Vorkommen, Element, Legierungen. System-Nummer 28. E. H. ERICH PIETSCH, Editor. Verlag Chemie, G.m.b.H., Weinheim/Bergstr., Germany. 1957. xii + pp. 69-488. 17.5 × 25.5 cm. Price, \$55.68.

With the issue of this section of the 8th Edition of the Gmelin Handbuch, the volume designated as "Calcium, Part A" is completed. The sub-titles include: Historical—Occurrence—Element—Alloys. The same thorough and careful presentation of the subject matter that has brought the Gmelin Handbuch much deserved renown is visible once again in this section. A complete subject index is included, which replaces the partial indices accompanying previous sections.

The present volume begins, at page 69, with the occurrence of calcium in the cosmos and in meteorites. Following the extraterrestrial occurrence, the geochemistry of calcium is covered in the next 130 pages, in which its presence in the lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and biosphere is described.

Sources of deposits of fluorspar, gypsum and anhydrite, calcium phosphates and Iceland spar are recorded in the next 350 pages, with production statistics and general literature references appertaining to each of these minerals. The presentation in each case is according to continents and the countries composing them.

A list of the more important calcium minerals, with properties of chief interest is next presented, including sulfides, oxides and hydroxides, halides, nitrates, borates, carbonates, iodates, sulfates, phosphates and arsenates, vanadates and related compounds, antimonates, titanates, niobates, tantalates, molybdates, tungstates, silicates and salts of organic acids.

The formation and preparation of elementary calcium, together with its chief physical properties, its electrochemical and chemical behavior, the general reactions of calcium salts, the physiological effects, and the detection and determination of calcium make up the following approximately 100 pages; and the volume is completed with a discussion of the alloys of calcium with antimony, bismuth, lithium, sodium, potassium and beryllium.

The appearance of this volume marks one more milestone along the road to the much-to-be-desired goal of a completed eighth edition of Gmelin, long recognized as a discriminating and authoritative reference work in the field of inorganic chemistry. Dr. Pietsch, carrying on the task begun by R. J. Meyer, together with his sizable staff of scientific co-workers, are to be congratulated on bringing the ultimate conclusion of the task of revision of this great work one step closer to realization.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS
WALTER C. SCHUMB

A Guide to the Literature of Chemistry. Second Ed. E. J. CRANE, Director and Editor, The Chemical Abstracts Service, AUSTIN M. PATTERSON, Formerly Professor of Chemistry, Antioch College, Ohio, and ELEANOR B. MARR, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Hunter College, New York. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. 1957. xiv + 397 pp. 15.5 × 23.5 cm. Price, \$9.50.

The revised second edition of this pioneer reference and text is welcomed by librarians and chemists. Because the past thirty years have seen so many new sources of literature, and loss of others, up-dating the reference section is important to keep this basic text alive and before the chemist. For the beginning chemist, in particular, whose development is so dependent on his learning to use the literature, this book is an important tool. It is refreshing that Miss Marr has been able to preserve this work of the pioneer literature chemists, Patterson and Crane. She has maintained their thoroughness and exactness in fact and enlivened the subject of searching chemical literature as an art which every chemist needs to learn. To this end she has pointed out many details, lack of which can be distressing to the uninitiated.

Research leaders and librarians should see that this book reaches their people. The importance of reading scientific