# New Books

1952 BOOK OF A.S.T.M. STANDARDS, Part 4: Paint, Naval Stores, Wood, Fire Tests, Sandwich Constructions, Building Constructions. (Published by the American Society of Testing Materials, 1916 Race street, Philadelphia 3, Pa., 1152 + XXVII pages, 1952.) This volume is one of seven volumes of the 1952 edition of the Book of Standards, which contains a total of more than 10,000 pages. Annual supplements will be published for each of the seven parts to include newly adopted *Standards* and *Tentatives* as they are approved by the Society or sponsoring committee, respectively. An excellent table of contents is arranged in two parts according to materials covered and to numerical sequence. A complete subject index also facilitates location of pertinent information.

Of most interest to readers of the J.A.O.C.S. will be the methods of analysis described on the first 678 pages. These are for paints, varnish, lacquer, and related products including naval stores. Tests on all kinds of *pigments, oils, driers,* thinners, solvents, and complete coating materials are included. This Part 4 is surely a necessary reference book for anyone working with these materials.

A. R. BALDWIN
Corn Products Refining Company
Argo, Ill.

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ORGANIC ANALYSIS, Volume I, by J. Mitchell, I. M. Kolthoff, E. S. Proskauer, and A. Weissberger, editors (Interscience Publishers Inc., New York, viii plus 473 pages, $8.50, 1953). The editors state in the Preface to this first volume of a projected series that "Organic Analysis is designed to fill a gap in the education of the analytical and organic chemist, to consolidate current knowledge, and to evaluate critically the many procedures employed." No one can deny the importance of organic quantitative non-elemental analysis to industrial organic and analytical chemists or assert that the undergraduate student, under the present scheme of undergraduate training in chemistry, has even a minimum acquaintance with this field of chemistry. One can but applaud the intention of the editors "to provide the practicing chemist with a reliable survey of these important methods which should be stimulating to those engaged in academic and industrial research." An Advisory Board of 22 members, only two of whom are academic people, assist in the choice of subjects to be included.

Eight subjects are included in Volume I: the determination of hydroxyl groups, alkoxyl groups, alpha-epoxy groups, active hydrogen, (two chapters), carbonyl compounds, acetals, organic sulfur groups, and functional groups by spectroscopic analysis (with emphasis in the last on applications to the petroleum industry).

With one exception the topics are treated quite adequately and have reasonably complete lists of references for further reading. Considerable freedom has been permitted to the contributors in the organization within the several chapters, and each reader may find one or another which appeals particularly to him. In the opinion of this reviewer the chapter which discusses alpha-epoxy group determinations is an excellent model for subsequent contributors to follow.

The chapter on the determination of active hydrogen using diazomethane might better have been omitted. A considerable part of this chapter is used by the author to develop some of his unique ideas on the acidity of C-H acids, and the reader finishes this chapter with the impression that there are no applications of this analytical procedure to industrial organic analysis. The criticism can be made of some of the other chapters that there is included too little discussion of the chemistry of the reactions involved, but there is so much extraneous argument that the purpose of the survey is almost indiscernible.

The level of excellence of the other chapters is such however that this book will be one which organic chemists and industrial analytical chemists will find generally useful and one to which they will refer for a rapid survey of analytical procedures for compounds having any of these functional groups. The calibre of this first volume suggests that this series will undoubtedly become to organic and analytical chemists who are interested in the analysis of organic compounds what "Organic Reactions" and "Organic Syntheses" are to the synthetic organic chemist.

ALLEN S. HUSSEY
Northwestern University
Evanston, Ill.

W. Doss Lumpkin has been appointed to the sales staff of the Votator Division of the Girdler Company, Louisville, Ky. He is a specialist in processes and equipment and will work in the division's expanding fats and oils section. Before going to Girdler, Lumpkin represented Filtrol Corporation in the United States and Canada and had charge of the company's field activities in in the fats and oils industry. His first job was with the Phillips Petroleum Company.

## People and Products

Leon J. Breton has been named manager of the Metropolitan Division of AMERICAN MINERAL SPIRITS COMPANY, Rahway, N. J. He will have full supervision of the sale of the company's line of petroleum solvents and allied chemicals from its distribution plant at Carteret, N. J.

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FISHER SCIENTIFIC COMPANY, Pittsburgh, Pa., has developed Granular Bismuth Metal, a certified reagent with the high purity verified by a lot-analysis on each bottle. It is intended to permit more exacting control in manufacturing research studies of the various products in which bismuth is used.