• *New Books*

TITRIMETRIC METHODS, D. S. Jackson, editor. (Published by The Chemical Institute of Canada, distributed by Plenum Press, New York, 185 p., 1961, $7.50.) This book contains the eleven papers representing the Proceedings of the Symposium on Titrimetric Methods held May 8-9, 1961, at Cornwall, Ontario, under the sponsorship of The Chemical Institute of Canada. The proceedings cover the area of Electrometric Titrations, three papers, 46 p.; Complexiметric Titrations, one papers and one abstract (the full paper was not made available for publication), 27 p.; and Titrations in Nonaqueous Solvents, six papers, 110 p. There is no index.

Considering that these papers composed a symposium, the scope covered by individual papers and the entire array is very narrow. An imbalance exists among the three areas of titrimetry, as is obvious from the number of papers within each section. Eight of the ten complete papers included in this book are of the type normally seen in appropriate journals. Whereas they undoubtedly reflect sound investigations, and are generally adequately supported by representative data, they are far too specific in application to be published in hard cover form. The other two papers are more suitable for book form but need much more support to even justify that. The keynote address, covering nonaqueous titrations in general, was essentially a review of the field but keyed only to acid-base reactions. Some new considerations in this field were helpfully included. An excellent presentation was made regarding the application of nonaqueous titrimetry to pharmaceutical analysis. If anything, this paper was too well documented with tabular data of results, 29 of the 42 pages being relegated to this role.

The quality of the paper used in this book is low but the print is very large and thus very readable. The page space used for printing is barely in the majority, making the numerous typographical errors even more obvious. Even considering the price of the book and the type of information included, the very misleading title may encourage many to acquire this book for their own use. This reviewer would not recommend it.

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ORGANIC SYNTHESES, Vol. 41, Edited by John D. Roberts (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 118 pp., 1961, $4.00). The stated purpose of Organic Syntheses, "providing tested procedures for preparing useful compounds in reasonable quantities," has again been achieved for the 28 entries in Volume 41. The format remains essentially unchanged from previous volumes and includes sections headed Procedure, Notes, Methods of Preparation, and (in the majority of entries) Merits of Preparation or Procedure. The latter section includes a statement on the merits of the preparation that recommended it for publication in Organic Syntheses. Contributors have made a more conscientious effort to include this section in this volume than in the preceding volume, where it made its initial appearance.

Compared to previous volumes, there is a notable shortening of the time lapse between the time of original publication of a procedure or preparation and its appearance in Volume 41. In one example, this interval is only eighteen months, and over a third of the entries were unknown five years ago. It is undeniably helpful to be able to go to a book like this for a procedure, as opposed to going to the original literature. However, this reviewer wonders if these extremely short time intervals are long enough to permit proper judgment on the part of the editor or the question of sufficient usefulness and generality of the preparation or procedure for inclusion in a series like Organic Syntheses.

There is no doubt about the general usefulness of the majority of entries in this volume, and the researcher faced with the problem of synthesizing these compounds or using these procedures would do well to consult Volume 41.

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