coauthors; and W. M. F. Leat and T. Gillman.

The section on Physiological Significance covers a variety of subjects which may be grouped roughly into papers on blood lipids (D. S. Robinson; E. F. Annison) lipids of subcellular structures (W. Bartley; J. A. Lucy and J. T. Dingle; M. G. Macfarlane), the fatty liver (C. R. C. Heard and B. S. Platt; K. R. Rees); regulation of lipid metabolism (N. Freinkel; G. B. Ansell); and several other aspects of lipid metabolism and function by R. G. Macfarlane; G. A. Garton; G. Peeters and M. Lauryssen; A. D. Bangham and R. W. Horne; M. R. Hokin; L. E. Hokin; and M. L. Karnovsky.

A section on Lipids of the Nervous System has papers by R. J. Rossiter, A. N. Davison; R. H. S. Thompson; and S. Svennerholm; and a section on Lipids and Proteins has papers by F. R. N. Gurd and by D. E. Green and S. Fleischer.

A final section contains two symposia—Fatty Acid Composition and Techniques—to which various participants contributed short additional but timely remarks.

The sum total of the papers represents a fairly inclusive review of important aspects of lipid metabolism and function. It should be a necessity to anyone in the field and of great benefit to those in many related fields.

Each chapter includes adequate numbers of literature references up to 1963 and the index for the total volume appears to be reasonably adequate. The book is well bound and appears to be printed on good quality paper. The printing, arrangement of the many tables and figures and clarity of the illustrations make for easy and rapid location of the desired information.

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Newer Methods of Preparative Organic Chemistry, ed. W. Foerst, translated by H. Birnbaum (Academic Press, Inc., New York, Vol. III, xiv 544 pp., 1964, $16).

This volume is a translation of a collection of eleven review articles which appeared originally in 1959 and 1960 in *Angewandte Chemie*. Like earlier volumes in this series, this work deals almost exclusively with synthetic procedures; reaction mechanisms are given only cursory attention.

Several chapters deal with the properties and reactions of specific reagents or a class of compound: 1) sulfur, 2) N-bromosuccinimide, 3) acid amides, particularly formamide, 4) chloramines, 5) pyrylium salts, and 6) diazoketones. Other chapters cover individual reactions or consider the preparation of a certain class of compound: 7) introduction of substituents into the pyridine ring, 8) Wittig reaction, 9) acyllactone rearrangement, 10) esters, amides and anhydrides of phosphoric acid, and 11) formation of the acetylenic bond.

The chapters are well written and generally provide a broad coverage of the literature. The chapter on syntheses with acid amides is an exception since it deals almost exclusively with work issuing from a single laboratory.

The most recent reference in 9 of the 11 chapters is taken from the literature of 1959. Consequently, several of the chapters, particularly the one dealing with the Wittig reaction, are out of date. The review on pyrylium salts is an exception because it has been rewritten and cites references as recent as 1963.

This volume should be available in every chemical library and synthetic organic chemists should be familiar with its contents. The reviewer does not recommend the purchase of such a specialized book to the individual organic chemist.

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Conformational Analysis by E. L. Eliel, N. L. Allinger, S. J. Angyal and G. A. Morrison (Interscience Publishers, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, xiii + 524 pp., 1965, $15).

This book presents an authoritative and very comprehensive review of the principles of conformational analysis and of its applications in a variety of fields of organic chemistry. In the first chapter, discussion of the conformation of acyclic molecules serves to introduce the reader to the concepts of rotational arrangement of atoms about single bonds and the influence of such arrangements on reactivity. The second chapter, which is devoted to a detailed treatment of cyclohexane and its derivatives, provides understanding of basic conformational effects in a cyclic system. The third chapter presents a unique feature of the book—a compilation and analysis of the various physical methods that have been used to determine the conformation of organic molecules. The authors then discuss, in separate chapters, conformational analysis in ring systems other than cyclohexane; in steroids, triterpenoids and alkaloids; and in carbohydrates. The final chapter returns to physical chemical considerations, in particular to the calculation of conformational energies.

It is unfortunate that the authors decided to omit material on the conformational analysis of protein structure, an application that has rapidly increased in importance during recent years. This omission, as well as the absence of discussion of conformational effects in long chain aliphatic molecules, will detract somewhat from the value of the book to some readers of JAOCS. Nevertheless, the book provides all of the background needed by anyone interested in conformational topics not specifically covered in the text.

The book measures approximately 6 in. x 9 in. Printing and binding are excellent and no typographical errors were noted. The figures, many of which are quite complicated, are particularly well done. Both author and subject indexes are provided. More extensive cross-referencing and a more consistent basis for determining key words would have resulted in a more useful subject index.

Understanding of conformational analysis and appreciation of its contributions to explaining chemical behavior are essential to today's organic chemist. He will want to add this book to his library.

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ASTM Soap and Detergent Committees Examine Methods At December Meeting

Committee D-12 on Soaps and Other Detergents of the American Society for Testing and Materials held its annual meeting Dec. 6–7, 1965, at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel, New York.

Under review were existing standards and tentatives, and action on newly proposed specifications and test methods.

Specific meetings included "Evaluation of Fabric Bleaches," led by J. H. Mallory; "Mechanical Dishwashing," R. F. Vance; "Test Methods for Drycleaning," J. B. Schapiro; "Analysis of Inorganic Alkaline Detergents," "Analysis of Metal Cleaners," "Specifications for Soaps and Synthetic Detergents," "Drycleaning," "Analysis of Soaps and Synthetic Detergents," "Physical Testing," "Specifications for Inorganic Alkaline Detergents."

At the final luncheon meeting, presentation of the Committee's special D-12 award was made to W. H. Joy.

Chairman of Committee D-12 is William Stericker; Vice-Chairman, E. W. Blank, Colgate-Palmolive Co.; Secretary, J. B. Schapiro, Dixo Co.