new publication will supplement them and provide a new medium through which the affiliated societies may make announcements of their programs and of their undertakings of general interest.

There is a labor and financial aspect of the establishment of this publication which merits a few comments. To send out through the mails a communication from the office of the permanent secretary to all the nearly 24,000 members of the association is so costly in labor and money that there is always pressure to refrain from doing so. Many of these desirable communications will appear substantially in this publication at much less cost. As a matter of fact, taking all the items of labor, envelopes, paper and postage into account, the cheapest mail service hitherto available to the association for communication to all members is about eight times as costly as through this *A.A.A.S Bulletin*.—THE EDITORS.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

OIL FIELDS

Stratigraphic Type Oil Fields. A Symposium. A. I. LEVORSEN, editor. xii + 902 pp. Illustrated. Tulsa, Okla.: American Association of Petroleum Geologists. $5.50 ($4.50, members).

PETROLEUM geologists have long construed their task as primarily a search for structure in known or prospective oil-bearing regions. They have been prone to think of oil reservoirs as the product of deformative geological processes. With the rapid accumulation during recent years of descriptive literature of numerous oil fields, it has been increasingly evident that many effectively sealed reservoirs are not the sole product of deformation. Many are primarily lenticular sand bodies, favorably interleaved in oil-bearing horizons or occurring on planes of unconformities. Some are the result of variable porosity and permeability in either limestones or sands; others are due to pinch-out up-dip of sand horizons or to the erosional truncation of sands, subsequently overlapped by an impervious cover. The East Texas field, the largest ever discovered, is thought to belong in the latter category.

Though the true character of many such reservoirs had previously been appreciated, the discovery of the East Texas field brought sharply into focus the importance of the so-called stratigraphic trap in our search for new fields. It aroused anew the suspicion that the discovery of a large reserve of oil contained in such traps awaited the evolution of a better geological technique, capable of coping with this more difficult problem. Areal and subsurface geology, geophysical exploration based on seismic or gravity determinations—all are designed chiefly to decipher structural conditions and often fall short of offering clues to the presence of stratigraphic traps.

The present volume includes descriptions of thirty-seven oil and gas fields situated in the various producing districts of the United States which illustrate the types of stratigraphic traps mentioned above. It presents factual data which should be useful in the further search for pools of this type. "New principles of future oil discovery depend to a large extent on an understanding of past experience. . . . The present volume . . . is intended as a factual background on which a further approach may be made to the causes of oil and gas accumulation and also as a basis for the reasoning necessary to future oil-field discovery" (Foreword).

The large majority of the papers deal with the vagaries of sand deposition which result in clear-cut examples of stratigraphic traps. Of especial interest are those which reconstruct paleogeographic conditions to show that the sand bodies were deposited as off-shore bars, channel filling or other familiar shoreline phenomena.

Obviously sedimentation is the controlling geological factor throughout this symposium. The volume should therefore prove most useful as a reference work in this field. Another very useful feature is the extensive annotated bibliography including 227 references to papers dealing with the same subject matter in recent geological literature.

W. E. WRATHER

DALLAS, TEXAS

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Identification of Pure Organic Compounds. Tables of Data on Selected Compounds of Order I. By E. H. HUNTRESS and S. P. MULLIKEN. xvii + 691 pp. New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd. 1941. $7.50.

ORDER I consists of compounds of carbon with hydrogen, or with hydrogen and oxygen. In this respect it resembles Volume I of Mulliken's four-volume work of the same title, which appeared in 1904. The general purpose, plan and function of the two, as well as the basis of primary classification, are similar. In other respects, however, they are quite different, so that this new compilation is not at all a new edition or revision of the earlier and well-known "Mulliken," but is an original contribution.

It differs from "A Manual for the Systematic Identification of Organic Compounds," by the same authors, which has appeared in mimeographed or

planographed editions, and which it supplements, in that its serviceability is not dependent upon any one particular scheme of analysis. No matter what the analytical approach may be, these tables will be found useful not only to students of organic qualitative analysis, but also to all chemists concerned with the identification of unknown organic compounds. The publication appears opportunely, for many changes have occurred in such data since 1904, and a complete set of "Mulliken" has been unobtainable for many years.

Following an explanatory introduction (14 pp.), and a description of the Generic Tests of Order I (11 pp.), the succeeding chapters are devoted to Aldehydes (50 pp.); Carbohydrates (7 pp.); Acids (116 pp.); Phenols (71 pp.); Esters (75 pp.); Acid Anhydrides and Lactones (4 pp.); Ketones (43 pp.); Alcohols (83 pp.); Ethers, Hydrocarbons, etc. (120 pp.); Colored Compounds of Order I (Suborder II) (25 pp.); and 26 pp. of valuable Tables of Melting Points of Series of Derivatives of Compounds of Order I commonly used for identification purposes. An Index of Compounds according to Empirical Formula and a general Alphabetical Index of Compounds of Order I conclude the volume. In addition to these two indexes, seven of the nine genera comprising the book are immediately preceded by a separate alphabetical name index and an index of chemical types. As noted above, the "Tables of Melting Points of Series of Derivatives" constitute another index.

The introductory chapter sets forth the system used for the classification of compounds, a brief synopsis of the general procedure for identification of unknowns, the arrangement of the data on individual compounds and the nomenclature adopted. Extensive use is made of abbreviations, as is essential in a reference work of this character, to economize space and to keep down the cost.

One of the difficult problems in all discussions or tabulations of "selected" organic compounds is to decide which compounds to select from the hundreds of thousands already in the literature. In his choice of the 1,364 compounds described in the present volume, the author has restricted his list, in most cases, to compounds which are commercially available or which can be prepared readily from accessible materials.

In compiling the tables, the literature has been searched carefully and laboriously, particularly for the years 1920–1940, about 70 per cent. of the approximately 7,500 citations recorded falling within that period. Every compound described also carries its Beilstein reference.

The book is an indispensable adjunct to all laboratories where the identification of organic compounds is a matter of interest or importance. Paper, press work and binding are excellent.

Micromethods of Quantitative Organic Elementary Analysis. Second edition. By JOSEPH B. NIEDERL and VICTOR NIEDERL. xiii + 347 pp. New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd. 1942. $3.50.

THE scope of the original edition has been somewhat enlarged, while retaining the same mode of presentation. New developments, improvements and simplifications, as well as the latest important contributions, have been included. "Remarks" and "Literature" are deferred until the conclusion of the chapters, so as not to interrupt descriptions of the analytical procedures.

Organic Syntheses. Collective Volume I. Second revised edition. Edited by HENRY GILMAN. Revised by A. H. BLATT. xi + 580 pp. New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd. 1941. 6.00.

THIS follows exactly the plan of the first edition and, like it, includes all the preparations given in Volumes I to X inclusive of "Organic Syntheses." For a number of these preparations, new or improved procedures have been added. Errors have been corrected. The literature has been reviewed through *Chemical Abstracts* for 1940 (vol. 34), and to each preparation a sub-title has been supplied, giving the C. A. indexing name wherever that differs from the one used in the heading.

An Introduction to Organic Chemistry. Fourth edition. By ROGER J. WILLIAMS. xi + 628 pp. New York: D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc. June, 1941. $4.00.

SINCE the publication of the third edition of this excellent textbook in May, 1935, developments in the rapidly changing field with which it deals have necessitated this revision, to bring it up to date, while the general arrangement and method of treatment remain the same.

MARSTON T. BOGERT
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PRIMATES

Bibliographia Primatologica—A Classified Bibliography of Primates Other than Man. By THEODORE C. RUCH. 241 + xxvii pages. Baltimore: Charles C Thomas. 1941. $8.50.

THIS is publication Number 4 of the historical laboratory of Yale Medical Library, and is Part I of a projected bibliography on primates. Part II will involve pathology and taxonomy. The headings used are embryology, general morphology, circulatory and