March 30, 1943): "The know-how on making the synthetic rubber itself was not given to anyone outside Germany because the Hitler Government prohibited it." Again, the neophyte may gather that butadiene is predominantly synthesized from acetylene, a process not employed in this country (p. 215). In connection with sodium polymerizations, it would seem that a reference to the excellent work of A. A. Morton *et al.* with alfin catalysts was deserved. In the recipe for GRS given on page 218 appears the notation "fatty acid soap (90% sol)," which needs interpretation.

On pages 218 and 219 Buna S_3 is twice mentioned, and it is stated, "No copolymer proved better than Buna S_3," yet no explanation is given regarding what Buna S_3 is polymerically. On page 223, in discussing the properties of Butyl rubber, no mention is made of its outstanding low gas permeability, the property that has brought it into wide use in inner tubes.

That this book is far more than a reference work or a textbook, but has as its objective the setting forth of a concept with all the eloquence of a superb teacher, investigator, and writer, is indicated by the following closing sentences:

> The number of problems in the solution of which biology and the chemistry of high polymers must join forces is infinite; wherever there is life there is structure, a structure built up from high polymeric molecules. As research advances, the greater is our perplexity, the greater our veneration and admiration for the true master of our science—living Nature.

This book should be read by all who are interested in high polymers.

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The Principles of Cloud-Chamber Technique. J. G. Wilson. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1951. 131 pp. $2.75.

With the recent increase in the use of cloud chambers for experiments on high-energy particles, especially in connection with the large accelerators, there has been a great need for a book describing the techniques used in cloud chamber work. It is a pleasure to report that this book, though quite short, goes a long way toward filling this need. Wilson has spent many years working with cloud chambers and has had the advantage of working in the laboratories of C. T. R. Wilson, inventor of the cloud chamber, and P. M. S. Blackett, who made many important contributions in the development of cloud chambers into precision instruments.

The book begins with sections on the fundamental theory of cloud chambers and the ionization of high-energy particles, continues with chapters on operation and photography, counter control, and techniques of precision measurements. The final chapter on the interpretation of cloud chamber photographs is a subject that deserves somewhat more space than it was given. Although much of the material has been published elsewhere, it is scattered through various periodicals and often difficult to find. Dr. Wilson has collected and correlated the work of many experimenters and has in addition added a considerable amount of heretofore unpublished information, especially in the sections on photography and on measurement techniques. The actual mechanical design of cloud chambers is almost completely omitted, but many operational techniques are included that are never mentioned in the literature. The discussion of continuously sensitive cloud chambers is limited to a description of Langsdorf's chamber and does not include some of the recent work on these instruments.

The writing is clear and concise, and the book is likely to be very useful to anyone using or planning to use a cloud chamber.

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Scientific Book Register

The Sea Around Us. Rachel L. Carson. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1951. 230 pp. $3.50.

Structural Geology of North America. A. J. Eardley. New York: Harper, 1951. 624 pp. $12.50.

Lectures in Abstract Algebra: Basic Concepts, Vol. I. Nathan Jacobson. New York: Van Nostrand, 1951. 217 pp. $5.00.

The Chemistry and Action of Insecticides. Harold H. Shepard. New York–London: McGraw-Hill, 1951. 504 pp. $7.00.

Enzymes and Enzyme Systems: Their State in Nature. John T. Edsall, Ed. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard Univ. Press, 1951. 146 pp. $2.75.

The Enzymes: Chemistry and Mechanism of Action, Vol. I, Part 2. James B. Sumner and Karl Myrbäck, Eds. New York: Academic Press, 1951. Pp. 725–1361. $12.80.

Pierre Curie. Marie Curie; Autorisierte deutsche Ausgabe von Anna Kerschagl. Vienna: Springer-Verlag, 1950. 89 pp. $1.00.

Electroencephalography in Clinical Practice. Robert S. Schwab. Philadelphia–London: Saunders, 1951. 195 pp. $6.50.

Ruwenzori Expedition 1934–5: Chloropidae, Vol. II, No. 7. Curtis W. Sabrosky. London: British Museum (Natural History), 1951. Pp. 711–828. 15 s.

Watch Out for the Weather. Jacqueline Berke and Vivian Wilson. New York: Viking, 1951. 226 pp. $2.95.

Diseases in Old Age. A clinical and pathological study of 7,941 individuals over 61 years of age. Robert T. Monroe. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard Univ. Press, 1951. 407 pp. $5.00.

Audubon Water Bird Guide: Water, Game and Large Land Birds. Sponsored by National Audubon Society. Richard H. Pough. New York: Doubleday, 1951. 352 pp. $3.50.

Progress in Metal Physics, Vol. 2. Bruce Chalmers, Ed. New York: Interscience; London: Butterworths, 1950. 213 pp. $8.00.

Clinical Tropical Medicine. R. B. H. Gradwohl, Luis Benitez Soto, and Oscar Felsenfeld, Eds. St. Louis: Mosby, 1951. 1,647 pp. $22.50.