

Overall this is a useful and instructive book. It is almost unblemished by error, although those few which occur could be misleading, e.g. the confusion of D- and L-forms in the midst of a commendable attempt to clarify the stereochemical representations of triglycerides. One or two chapters are anecdotal in style and lack references to provide further information for the more zealous reader, especially on points of dubious validity

J E MCKAY

Polymer Photochemistry: An International Journal. Edited by N S Allen. Applied Science Publishers Ltd, London. ISSN 0144-2880

The reaction to the birth of a scientific journal is often one of mixed feelings for various reasons. One of these reasons concerns the need to be selective in the purchase of journals especially in view of constant reminders of the reality of limited financial resources available.

In reviewing a new journal one looks to the aims and objectives of the editor, to the constitution of the editorial board as well as to the first issues. With regard to these three points *Polymer Photochemistry* rates highly. The editor is an authority in this subject, the editorial board has an excellent pedigree and the first issue possesses a commendable balance of topics, considered under the general mantle of polymer photochemistry. If the editor achieves the objectives he lays down for the journal in his editorial to the first issue, he will provide a long sought for avenue for both scientific and technological aspects of polymer photochemistry.

The journal, currently published quarterly, covers natural and synthetic polymeric systems and all aspects of polymerisations which are induced by electromagnetic radiation. Areas of interest include photochemical cross-linking, photografting, photocuring, photo-imaging together with the optical and luminescence properties of polymers. One of the strengths of the journal is the attention given to additives. Examples include photoinitiators, synergists, monomers, antioxidants, light stabilisers, optical brightening agents and so on. For the first issue the editor has assembled a group of strong papers. *Polymer Photochemistry* will be a valuable addition to the libraries of academic and industrial centres alike. My reaction to *Polymer Photochemistry* is one of enthusiasm. This journal deserves support. I now look forward to following its growth and development. The editor is to be congratulated on his initiative.

JAMES T GUTHRIE