

Book Review

Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry, Vol. A2. VCH Verlagsgesellschaft, Weinheim, FRG, 1985. xii + 553 pp. ISBN 3-527-20102-5. Price: DM 340·00/US \$145·00.

This second volume of the fifth revised edition of the Ullmann Encyclopedia covers the topics from Amines to Antibiotics. Reviewing what must be by its nature encyclopedic in its presentation, rather than a text book on specific areas of chemistry, does present problems, but in the context of the objectives of the publishers it is difficult to find fault. Each topic is clearly presented, very readable, informative, comprehensive, up to date and well referenced.

Of immediate interest in this volume to readers of *Dyes and Pigments* are the sections on anthraquinone and on dyes and intermediates derived from it; the respective authors from Bayer AG have produced an eminently satisfactory review of the industrial chemistry pertinent to these topics. It is this emphasis on industrial aspects which is particularly valuable and unique to this publication, and the 400 references to anthraquinone dyes and intermediates are predominantly to patent specifications.

Dye and textile chemists will also find much of value in the sections on aromatic amines (with additional specific reviews of aniline and of aminophenols), amino resins and amino acids, and the organic chemists are well served in the many sections pertaining to the pharmaceutical industry (including analeptics, analgesics, anesthetics, anorexients, antihelminthics, antiallergic agents, antiarrhythmic drugs,

antiasthmatics and a particularly extensive and up-dated review of antibiotics).

The overall presentation of the volume is excellent and each section is amply replete with structural formulae, figures and tables which exemplify and augment the text. All in all, a most worthy publication and a reference source to be recommended. Every library should have a copy.

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