

## Book Review

**Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry.** Vols A5–A7. VCH Verlagsgesellschaft, Weinheim, FRG, 1986. Vols A5 (ISBN 3-527-20105-X; xv + 556 pp), A6 (ISBN 3-527-20107-8; xv + 576 pp) and A7 (ISBN 3-527-20107-6; xv + 593 pp). Price: DM 375.00 per volume.

The Ullmann volumes continue their detailed survey of industrial chemistry with these three further volumes dealing, respectively, with Cancer Chemotherapy to Ceramic Colourants, Ceramics to Chlorohydrins, and Chlorophenols to Copper Compounds. Specific colourant sections in these three issues are restricted to a brief but concise survey of ceramic colourants and a short five page section on cationic dyes (both in Vol. A5). The latter gives typical examples of each class only, since the Ullmann classification of dyes is by chemical structure and more detailed reviews of cationic dyes will be found under the relevant chemical headings (azo, anthraquinone, azine, benzoquinone and naphthaquinone cationic having already been covered in earlier volumes).

There is, however, much of interest to the textile and colour chemist, not least being an excellent survey (totalling 113 pages) of cellulose, cellulose esters and cellulose ethers, covering all aspects of structure, properties and processing. It is not feasible in a brief review to indicate every topic covered in these volumes, the general alphabetical range indicated above is self-explanatory. Selecting at random items likely to be of direct interest to readers of this journal, we find caprolactam, carbazole, chitin and chitosan and an extensive range of chlorinated compounds, and amidst the chocolate, choline, coffee, confectionery and contraception of Volume A7 an excellent set of sections on coal, coal liquefaction and coal pyrolysis, topics of basic relevance to industrial chemistry.

The presentation and layout of all the volumes is exemplary and both authors and publisher are to be congratulated on presenting such an informative and extremely readable set of volumes with such clarity and authority. An indispensable reference work for applied scientists of all persuasions. (Also available is an exhaustive cross reference index to volumes A1 to A4, invaluable in tracing references to specific compounds and processes mentioned in these initial four volumes.)

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