

it needs, being careful, of course, to be sympathetic with their internal problems. Then, you establish an organization that can provide the hardware called for in the advisory report. Having provided the advice in the first place, it is a relatively simple matter to demonstrate the need for a sole-source purchase of the hardware. Then, by virtue of acquisitions and expenditures financed by these contracts, it becomes easier and easier to acquire prestige, power, and wealth. Of course, one should not neglect to provide employment for the retiring, high-ranking members of the branch of service in question.

Mr. Neiburg's book is an exhaustive analysis of these two problems and many more. It is a frightening document, but it is carefully constructed and well supplied with documentation and liberally sprinkled with pertinent quotations. After reading the book, one cannot help but be convinced that the Vietnam war, or at least some aspects of it, are mere manifestations of the rivalries, jealousies, and struggles for power described in this book. Like any other good book, there are villains and heroes, but unlike many others, there are far more of the former than the latter. The established villains are primarily the Air Force, NASA, organizations such as Thompson-Ramo-Wooldridge, and Congress. The only hero in the book is Secretary McNamara, who is heroic only by comparison. The victims are clearly you and I.

This reviewer has only one regret. The book is long (some 400 pages) and it is written with a dry style which is suited to its purpose because of the need and desire to establish the truth. It does mean, however, that the book may not be widely read, and it *should* be widely read. It would be a great service to this nation if the book could be condensed and brightened so that it would be readily available to the voters.

*Albert V. Crewe, a member of the staff of the Enrico Fermi Institute for Nuclear Studies at the University of Chicago, is an authority on high energy physics and electron microscopes. From 1961 until his resignation a few months ago, he was Director of Argonne National Laboratory. In that capacity he had*

*ample opportunity to observe first hand some of the working relationships between big government and big science, a position that makes his review of Neiburg's book carry considerable weight.*

#### DETAILED AND HELPFUL, ALMOST

*Title* Radiometric Titrations

*Authors* T. Braun and J. Tölgyessy

*Publisher* Pergamon Press, 1967

*Pages* x + 168

*Price* \$8.50

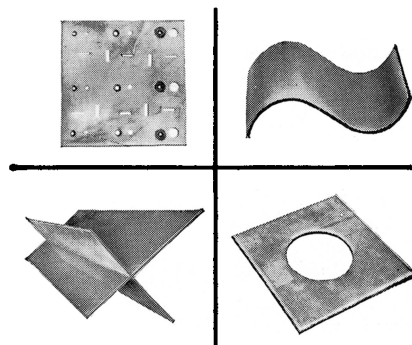
*Reviewer* M. L. Good

"Radiometric Titrations" describes in detail the experimental applications and the theoretical background of the radiometric determination of equivalence points in various titrimetric procedures. The endpoint in these titrations is obtained by following the radioactivity of one of the reactants. Since the determination of a change in radioactivity of a particular component is required, it is necessary to effect a separation of this component from the remainder of the system. Thus, a "radiometric titration" requires a separation of system components and could be referred to as a separation titration. A discussion of the method must include the theory and application of separation techniques as well as the essentials of the radiometric method. The book makes an effort to accomplish this task and, for the most part, is successful.

The section devoted to precipitation reactions begins with a theoretical discussion of the precipitation process in general and follows with equations derived for specific radiometric procedures. In most cases only the final results of a literature derivation are given, and one is hard pressed to follow logically from one equation to the next. Preferably, in a work of this sort, one would actually follow through one of the derivations and discuss the assumptions, etc., that are made and the accuracy and usefulness of the final results. The same criticism applies to the theoretical section of the chapter on

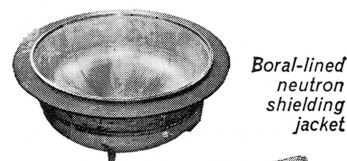


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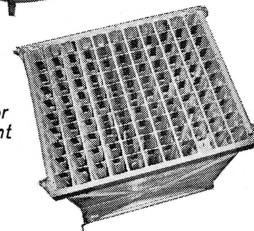
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radiometric titrations in systems based on complex formation.

The sections of the book devoted to experimental procedures are detailed and give adequate diagrams of actual experimental set-ups. However, the various methods are listed catalog fashion, and not enough effort was expended in evaluation and comparison of the many procedures and apparatus presented.

Many passages in the book are obscure and difficult to follow. However, the subject of radiometric titrations is covered in detail, and sufficient information is presented to make this a most helpful book for anyone interested in this particular technique or in titrimetric procedures in general. The main contributions of the book are the excellent bibliography and the extensive tables where all the materials that have been determined by radiometric titrations are summarized.

*Mary L. Good, Professor of Chemistry at Louisiana State University in New Orleans, has been on the L.S.U. faculty since receiving her PhD (University of Arkansas, 1955). Her chief fields of interest are inorganic and radiochemistry, and she presently has research programs underway in Mössbauer studies, solvent extraction of lanthanides, actinides and noble metals, and spectral studies in nonaqueous solvent systems.*

## BOOK ANNOUNCEMENTS

Although the following books will not be reviewed, they may be of interest to some of our readers:

*Introduction to Nuclear Chemistry*, B. J. Carswell, American Elsevier Publishing Co., 1967, ix + 279, \$11.00

*Elements of Energy Conversion*, Charles R. Russell, Pergamon Press, 1967, x + 406, \$9.00

*Neutron Noise, Waves, and Pulse Propagation*, Robert E. Uhrig, symp. coordinator, USAEC/Division of Technical Information, 1967, xii + 771, \$3.00

*Radioisotope Tracers in Industry and Geophysics*, 710 pp, \$14.50

*Solid State and Chemical Radiation Dosimetry in Medicine and Biology*, 471 pp, \$10.00

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