

The ninth volume of Dr. Howard Tripp's *Monographs on Applied Chemistry* maintains the standard of the earlier parts of the series. After a brief introduction on electrolysis one gets to business with a chapter on reversible electrode potentials. A moderately advanced knowledge of physics and chemistry is rightly assumed, since the whole series is intended for the trained chemist who desires to specialise. Beginning with the measurement of electrode potential and the various available methods and standards, polarisation and overvoltage are next considered; the theories of overvoltage are briefly but adequately described. Diffusion phenomena, whose significance in electrolytic reactions is insufficiently realised, are discussed in detail. The wide theoretical basis thus provided is followed up by individual oxidation and reduction processes, the reversible reactions of inorganic chemistry, irreversible organic reductions, irreversible inorganic reductions, the polymerisation of anions, the oxidation of fatty acids and their salts, irreversible organic and inorganic oxidations and anodic substitution

being taken in order. The whole book is characterised by the soundness of the theoretical treatment and the wealth of detail. Each chapter is followed by an extensive bibliography. As an authoritative exposition of a branch of applied chemistry which is growing daily in technical importance and as a work of reference the book is invaluable; the technologist, however, would be inclined to regard the compilation of a somewhat perplexing array of electrochemical oxidations and reductions and the citation of literature as uncritical. Thus one obtains a very full account of the electrolytic reduction of nitrobenzene, but no indication is given of its practical futility so far as the manufacture of aniline is concerned. While, therefore, the authors' claim that few data of any importance have been omitted is wholly justified, the technical chemist who turns to the book for practical guidance in the exploration of the commercial possibilities of a given electrolytic method is apt to find some difficulty in seeing the wood for the trees.

K. V.

Forthcoming Events.

Central College Mathematical Society, Bangalore.—Mr. K. Venkatachala Iyengar will deliver a course of eight weekly lectures on "The Recent Advances in the Theory of

Integral and Meromorphic Functions with Special Reference to Picard-Borel Theorem and Asymptotic Values."

Erratum.

Current Science, Vol. IV, No. 7, January 1936 on p. 484,
read S. N. Chakravarti for S. K. Chakravarti.