The "Concentration and Stability of Disperse Systems" is of much theoretical and practical importance and consequently this book will be welcomed in many quarters, not only for the clarity of the discussions but also for its wealth of information that will be found valuable by workers in many fields. On the one hand are the systems that are characterized by resistance to coagulating agents and on the other those that are readily coagulated to yield flocculations that are resistant against redispersal. Among the first class are pharmaceuticals, lattices, emulsions of foodstuffs, dispersions of pigments. Flocculation and coalescence are typified by the removal of water droplets and gas bubbles from oils, the various flotation processes, etc. Chemists, chemical engineers, and biologists will be interested in the contents of this book.

A valuable feature is the Bibliography and References appended to each chapter. The literature from the principal European languages (up to 1969) has been adequately covered and condensed in the numerous sections devoted to the main discussions of the chief aspects of the book's topics. The theoretical discussions are clear and thorough and likewise the comments on the various industries that involve disperse systems. Because of its general excellence this book merits being translated into English.

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Grundlagen der Analytischen Chemie

First issued in 1955, this outstanding text has undergone periodic revisions and extensions. The main title "Foundations of Analytical Chemistry" carries the subtitle "With special consideration of the chemistry in aqueous systems." It is not designed to take the place of the usual texts because it contains no specific directions or procedures in quantitative analysis but instead stresses the theoretical aspects of the subject. It clearly exhibits the close relationship between analytical and physical chemistry and in the present edition has been brought down to date. The language is not especially difficult and most chemists can follow the German discussions without particular difficulty.

Typical chapter headings will illustrate the breadth of the treatment: The Precise Form of the Law of Mass Action; Homogeneous Equilibria; Complex Compounds, Complex Salts and Complex Ions; The Strength of Acids and Bases; Colorimetric Measurement of pH; Diffusibly Soluble Hydroxides; Theoretical Foundations of Ion Exchangers; Reactions in Salt Melts; Redox Titrations; Potentiometric Titrations and Potentiometric pH-Measurements, Theoretical Foundations of External Electrolysis, Solution Processes; etc.

This text should be put into English so that its real value and field of usefulness would be enlarged to proper proportions.

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Chemische Experimente die gelingen- Anorganische Chemie

Though Römp’s international reputation was due mostly to his monumental multi-volume Chemie-Lexikon, he was also widely known in his native Germany for his popular books on chemistry, which were directed mainly at the lower echelons of chemical students and those attempting to learn something about this science on their own. The book under review here, whose title translated into English is “Chemical Experiments that Succeed” falls into the latter classification. It was first published in 1939 and has gone through many editions and revisions, with a total sale of around 125 thousand copies. Obviously the book has filled an urgent need and the purchasers have included not only the auto-didacts but also many teachers who have used the book as a source of lecture experiments. The clear exposition of chemical theories and concise clear method of stating facts have been reflected and imitated in many texts.

Since it is directed at the beginners who lack trained directions, it contains discussions of such things as common types of chemical apparatus, the characteristics of numerous inorganic chemicals, glass blowing, the common chemical operations, etc. The theoretical discussions interlaced among the procedures lift the book out of the cookbook class. The experiments, drawn largely from the practical world really work. The author has not shunned experiments that carry a certain danger (for example fireworks, gunpowder) but in such cases he gives ample warning against explosions, the free inhalation of toxic vapors and so on.

The number of pages is misleading because the type-size used is much smaller than usual; there is no loss of legibility. The experiments are many and varied and drawn from all areas of inorganic, analytical and physical chemistry. This is an exceptionally fine book and teachers who read German are urged to acquire it as a source of helpful ideas. The price is so moderate that there is no need here to give a full analysis of the contents. Get the book and read it carefully and enjoy the masterly method in which the author exercises his skill.

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