



Alfred Werner

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Book Condition: New. Publisher/Verlag: Springer, Berlin | Founder of Coordination Chemistry | A generation ago, nearly all college students who planned to become chemists were required to take a course in the history of their subject, but nowadays, such courses are usually not required, and in many schools, are not even offered. It is argued that the subject of chemistry is expanding so rapidly that students can hardly master the material which fills the new text books, to say nothing of learning what chemists thought and did a century ago. Although this point of view has some validity, it fails to take into account the much more important fact that one cannot really understand or appreciate the present position of science unless he knows something of the slow and tortuous steps through which it developed. His ability to help it move forward will be greatly enhanced by an understanding of the thinking of the chemists who built the theories which we use today. It has been truly said, "He who knows only his own generation remains always a child." The appearance of a book which details the birth of a great development in chemistry is therefore a significant event,...



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