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International Union of Crystallography

Offprints of articles published in *Acta Crystallographica*

As a result of changes in the printing of *Acta Crystallographica* and in order to keep production costs for offprints at a reasonable level it has been necessary to change the arrangements for printing offprints. Offprints will be printed exactly as the article appears in the journal. Extracts of the preceding or subsequent article will not be 'blanked out' nor will the pages of the article be rearranged for the printing of the offprint. Offprints of articles which do not commence at the top of a right-hand page in the journal will include the last part

of the preceding article, whilst offprints of articles which do not finish at the bottom of a left-hand page in the journal will include the first part of the subsequent article. These changes took effect for offprints for *Acta Crystallographica*, Section B from the September 1977 issue onwards and will also apply to Section A commencing with the January 1978 issue.

It is hoped that the termination of the expensive practice of rearranging the printed articles for the production of offprints will make it possible to continue the provision of free offprints, and that authors will understand the necessity of introducing this new format for the offprints.

Book Reviews

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Book-Review Editor (J. H. Robertson, School of Chemistry, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, England). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.

Lectures on solid state physics. By G. BUSCH and H. SCHADE. Pp. xv + 535, Pergamon Press, 1976. Price \$35.00, £17.50.

As the title indicates and the author's preface explains, the book presents a selection from several branches of solid-state physics based on the material of the lectures given annually over some years, by the authors, for students of physics and mathematics at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zürich.

The purpose of the authors was not to present a treatise on solid-state physics, but to provide the reader with the basic physical ideas. The book is intended to serve as a base and guide for students and teachers, as well as for professionals in the fields of solid-state physics and chemistry, electrical engineering and materials science. The authors have used elementary mathematical methods in order not to render difficult the understanding of the physical concepts, which are more important than the mathematical formalisms.

The aim seems to have been achieved successfully because the book is structured in such a way that the student can obtain a perspective in which the basic aspects of solid-state physics are at conceptual level high enough for him to go further into this field with the guarantee of being able to understand more profound treatments of the subject.

On the other hand the professionals will find an interesting reference book, where the concepts and mathematical expressions which are in normal use in their work are clearly set out. At the same time they will have the basic theoretical aspects and fundamental experimental methods to initiate work on any other branch of the wide spectrum of their own practical work. The selected bibliography at the end of each lecture will help in the study of specific problems.

The book consists of eleven lectures labelled *A* to *K*, dealing with different branches of solid-state physics, except part *A* which presents a sort of resumé on the characteristics of crystalline, amorphous and polycrystalline solids in general. Lecture *B* is dedicated to the fundamental aspects of