

for the refractive index the information that a substance is isotropic would be valuable. The amount of extra space required for this would be negligible; on the other hand several pages could be saved by omitting fibres, which can hardly be treated in the same way as truly crystalline substances and which are dealt with adequately in various specialized monographs.

The usefulness of the book would be greatly increased by the provision of a formula index. As Dr Winchell remarks, the choice of names is somewhat arbitrary; it is in fact sometimes very arbitrary, as will be seen from the fact that whereas  $(p\text{-Br.C}_6\text{H}_4)_2\text{SO}_2$  is named 4·4' dibromodiphenylsulphone,  $(p\text{-Br.C}_6\text{H}_4)_2\text{S}$  is named phenyldibromosulphide. It is sometimes difficult, therefore, in the absence of a formula index, to be certain whether a particular substance is recorded or not.

The printing of the new edition is by letterpress, and not only is it much more pleasant to read than the type-script photolithography of the first edition but it has enabled the bulk of the book to be kept about the same in spite of a 50% increase in content.

Dr Winchell has taken the opportunity to bring some

of the older entries into line with modern practice by altering acute monoclinic angles  $\beta$  to obtuse. He has also re-orientated a number of orthorhombic crystals to make  $b > a > c$ , but he has not been consistent in this.

It is not humanly possible to produce a book of this kind free from omissions and errors, and, although it is easy to find both, the errors on the whole are not serious and the omissions probably not numerous: it is to be hoped, however, that with the increasing volume of original crystallographic publication some means, preferably on an international basis, will be found for pooling all X-ray and optical data so that in later editions substantially 100% coverage can be achieved.

I hope that the foregoing criticisms will not obscure the very great merits of this book, which deserves to be widely used and which will, I hope, stimulate a more intelligent interest in chemical microscopy among organic chemists and crystallographers.

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### Books Received

*The undermentioned works have been received by the Editors. Mention here does not preclude review at a later date.*

**Glans en Gloed.** By UIT DONKERE DIEPTEN. Pp. 83 with many coloured plates. Arnheim: Levensverzekeringmattschappijen.

**Microstructures of Diamond Surfaces.** By S. TOLANSKY. Pp. viii+67 with 143 plates. London: N. A. G. Press. 1955. Price 40s.

**Struktur und Eigenschaften der Kristalle.** By H. G. F. WINKLER. Pp. viii+313 with 111 figs. and 82 tables. Berlin; Göttingen; Heidelberg: Springer. 2nd ed. 1955. Price DM. 25·80; cloth binding DM. 29·60.

**Small-Angle Scattering of X-rays.** By A. GUINIER and G. FOURNET. (Translated from the French by C. B. WALKER.) Pp. xi+268 with 78 figs. New York: Wiley; London: Chapman and Hall. 1955. Price \$7·50; 60s.

**Les Dislocations et la Croissance des Cristaux.** By W. DEKEYSER and S. AMELINCKX. Pp. viii+184 with 80 figs. and 23 plates. Paris: Masson. 1955. Price 2,000 fr.

**Les Lacunes des Cristaux et leurs Inclusions Fluides.** By G. DEICHA. Pp. 126 with 13 figs. and 12 plates. Paris: Masson. 1955. Price 950 fr.

**Handbuch der Physik. Band 7, Teil 1. Kristallphysik.** Edited by S. FLÜGGE. Pp. vii+687 with 321 figs. Berlin; Göttingen; Heidelberg: Springer. 1955. Price DM. 122·50.

**Structure Reports for 1942-1944.** Edited by A. J. C. WILSON, N. C. BAENZIGER, J. M. BIJVOET and J. M. ROBERTSON. Pp. viii+448 with many figs. Published for the International Union of Crystallography. Utrecht: N.V. A. Oosthoek's Uitgevers Mij. 1955. Price 65 Dutch florins; \$17·50; £6·60.