

system of classifications with cross-referencing that will allow fuller use to be made of these excellent volumes.

To return to the volume under review: an interesting feature is the emergence of the increasing application of techniques other than the X-ray method to crystallographic problems. For instance, a rapidly developing technique is that of nuclear-magnetic-resonance studies on crystals. One reference is made to it in Volume 13 (1950) whereas eleven cases are mentioned in the present one. The number of neutron-diffraction studies listed in Vol. 17 is more than double that in the previous one and there is almost a proportionate increase in the use of microwave-spectral studies. While such techniques have gone much further in their applications today, it is noticeable that X-ray investigators tend to overlook recording the optical properties of their specimens as revealed by the decline in the numbers of such examinations listed in this volume compared with Vol. 16.

A marked feature of *Structure Reports*, and not only the present volume, is the tendency to a paucity of adequate structure representations. Surely more could be done to represent completed structures by good crystallographic illustration. There is no uniformity in this respect and this perhaps is a fault not so much of the abstractors as of the authors who could establish better cooperation with abstractors and provide the latter with the relevant illustrations. Such refinements would undoubtedly increase the costs of *Structure Reports*, but if they are to serve their purpose adequately and not degenerate into mere catalogues some compromise should be sought in the representation of completed structure determinations.

Naturally, the structure determinations in any one field, in one year, do not form a continuity and it would be unfair to single out any particular contribution in a field as diverse as crystallography. It should be realized however that in 1953 Crick & Watson at Cambridge, Wilkins at King's College, London, and the late Miss Franklin at Birkbeck College, London, were responsible for the major crystallographic break-through that resulted in the structure determination of deoxyribonucleic acid — the carrier of genetic information. In pointing out this single item one is naturally led to ask whether the section editors of *Structure Reports* could not include brief summaries indicating the significant contributions in any one year. As *Structure Reports* must of necessity appear in retrospect, this would not be a difficulty imposed on Section Editors, and even if they were accused of personal bias such summaries would still be invaluable to those browsing through the volumes. Here there is scope for imagination and ingenuity in the concise presentation of such articles and would make these valuable volumes all the more attractive.

However, in spite of this minor criticism, both Section Editors and the General Editors are to be complimented on the high standards maintained in the presentation of *Structure Reports* in a remarkably clear manner. The printing and diagrams, such as they are, are excellent and the volume takes its deserved place with those of its predecessors.

C. H. CARLISLE

Birkbeck College Crystallography Laboratory
21 Torrington Square,
London, W. C. 1
England

Theory of elasticity of an anisotropic elastic body. By S. G. LEKHNITSKII, San Francisco: Holden-Day Inc., 1963. Translated by P. FERN. Edited by J. J. BRANDSTATTER. Pp. 404. Price \$10.95. Originally published as *Teoriya Uprugosti Anisotropnogo Tela*. Moscow and Leningrad: Government Publishing House for Technical Theoretical Works.

This is a monograph which treats systematically a number of problems concerned with the elastic deformation of anisotropic bodies. Apart from crystals a number of structures, such as corrugated plates and membranes, which are constructed from isotropic materials are elastically anisotropic. Also reinforced structures containing with a preferred orientation are elastically anisotropic. Thus the work is of importance to missile and aircraft designers, to mining engineers, geophysicists and architectural engineers.

The six chapters deal with (1) the general theory of the elasticity of an anisotropic body, (2) simple cases of elastic equilibrium, (3) and (4) the state of stress of an anisotropic body bounded by a cylindrical surface when the stress is constant along a generator, (5) the state of stress of an anisotropic cantilever deformed by a transverse force, (6) the symmetric deformation and torsion of a body of revolution.

The treatment is at a uniformly high level throughout. The problems are treated purely analytically in a systematic and comprehensive manner. The book is intended for theoreticians rather than practising technologists. There is little direct application of the analysis to actual problems. The translation appears to be excellent and the production of the book has resulted in very clear text, equations and figures.

W. A. WOOSTER

339 Cherry Hinton Road
Cambridge
England

Kristallchemie. By W. KLEBER. Pp. 128 with many Figs. Leipzig: Teubner. 1963. Price DM 9.30.

The title of this work is misleading, for it is in no sense a systematic presentation of the principles of crystal chemistry. Rather is it a discussion of certain isolated topics in the field, often demanding of the reader a considerable knowledge of structural chemistry for its proper comprehension. Yet the reader with this knowledge will find much that is elementary and much with which he is familiar.

The first chapter (half the book) is devoted to a discussion of the packing of spheres, and it is shown that many structures can be described as a close-packed assembly of atoms of one kind with other atoms in the interstices. Such a description of some structures is undoubtedly illuminating, but there are many others of which the important features are obscured when described in this way: what is significant about the zincblende structure, for example, is not that the zinc atoms lie in