

and Lyell. After his return to the United States he gave lectures on geological topics in New York and Philadelphia, and it was at the urging of his friends in Philadelphia that he founded the *Monthly Journal*. Many of the articles in it were by Featherstonhaugh himself, including a series entitled 'An Epitome of the Progress of Natural Science' followed by others on 'The Crust of the Earth'. Mineralogy occupied a very minor place in the Journal but the editor took pains to publicize the claims of Andres del Rio to have been the original discoverer of vanadium, in 1802. The articles are not confined to American topics, and James Dickson, F.G.S. supplied an interesting paper 'On the Silver, Gold and Platina of Russia' and an unidentified British correspondent wrote about the vitrified forts of Scotland.

The Journal reflects a picture of American geology and geologists over a very brief time range, and the introduction and biographical sketch of Featherstonhaugh by Professor White increases its interest. The use of what is possibly a unique copy of the original Journal, with all the printed covers, to prepare this facsimile edition adds to its value.

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J. M. EYLES

Optical properties of solids. Edited by S. NUDELMANN and S. S. MITRA. Pp. xi+641. New York: Plenum Press, 1969. Price \$35.00.

These proceedings of the NATO Advanced Study Institute at Freiburg in 1966 provide a very readable review of the broad field of optical phenomena in solids. The first part concentrates on the electronic properties of semiconductors varying from narrow to wide gap, while the rest of the book discusses the vibrations of perfect crystals, point defects, their vibrational and electronic spectra, and electron-phonon interactions.

Twenty two lecturers at the Summer School each provide a chapter: though each contribution carries the distinctive stamp of its author, reasonable continuity has been maintained. Group theoretical terminology is developed in the first chapter and widely used: there is a welcome absence of orgies of many-body theory.

Though some of the material is already dated, this is a very valuable account of the field. Alas, at a price of thirty five dollars, most of us will consult a library copy.

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Notes and News

Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. The notes (in duplicate) should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the International Union of Crystallography (J. N. King, 13 White Friars, Chester CH1 1NZ, England). Publication of an item in a particular issue cannot be guaranteed unless the draft is received 8 weeks before the date of publication.

The Second Symposium on the Thermal Expansion of Solids 10-12 June 1970, Santa Fe, New Mexico, U.S.A.

The Second Symposium on the Thermal Expansion of Solids will be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, U.S.A. on 10-12 June 1970, under the joint sponsorship of the University of Illinois and Sandia Laboratories. The symposium covers recent advances in theoretical and experimental studies of thermal expansion and its relation to other properties of solids. The proceedings will be published. The deadline for receiving abstracts is 30 March 1970; further information may be obtained from Prof. Ralph O. Simmons, Physics Department, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61803, U.S.A. or Dr Duane C. Wallace, Solid State Physics, Division 5151, Sandia Laboratories, P.O. Box 5800, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87115, U.S.A.

International Union of Crystallography Eight International Congress: Abstracts

The communicated abstracts of the Congress, including Topical Meetings, have already been published in May 1969

as a 295-page supplement, part S3, of *Acta Crystallographica* Volume A25. This supplement is available at a price of D.kr. 75 (U.S. \$10.00, £4.4s.) from Munksgaard Ltd, Prags Boulevard 47, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark.

Differing only in the outer covers and title *Collected Abstracts*, as provided to all Congress participants. This volume is available at a price of U.S. \$10.00 from the Polycrystal Book Service, P.O. Box 11567, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15238, U.S.A.

International Union of Crystallography Early Papers on Diffraction of X-rays by Crystals

The Executive Committee of the International Union of Crystallography has pleasure in announcing the publication in August 1969 of *Early Papers on Diffraction of X-rays by Crystals*, edited by J. M. Bijvoet, W. G. Burgers and G. Hägg. This book contains xvi + 372 pages, 93 figures and 8 plates. It has been published for the Union by A. Oosthoek's Uitg. Mij. N.V., Domstraat 9-13, Utrecht, Netherlands, from whom it can be obtained at a price of 48 Netherlands Guilders (U.S. \$13.50 or £5.14s. at the present rates of