

real practical value. An efficient non-linear material, such as KTP, or  $\gamma$ -BaB<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, combined with a simple YAG laser, may also fulfil the demands mentioned above. Further, the doping possibility of YAG by Cr<sup>3+</sup> and the sensitivity of Nd:YAG to  $\gamma$ -radiation depend critically on the growth conditions (protective atmosphere) and on the content of traces of group VIIIb ions, such as iron or iridium. Such matters have not been referred to in the book.

Nevertheless, the facts given in this book condense a large amount of valuable information. This book, therefore, can be used by scientists and students in the field of quantum electronics as well as those engaged in materials sciences and technology.

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## Books Received

*The following books have been received by the Editor. Brief and generally uncritical notices are given of works of marginal crystallographic interest; occasionally a book of fundamental interest is included under this heading because of difficulty in finding a suitable reviewer without great delay.*

*J. Appl. Cryst.* (1987). **20**, 450

**Recent advances in X-ray characterisation of materials.** Edited by *P. Krishna*. Pp. vii + 514. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1987. Price DM 300. This book is the hard-cover version of what has already appeared in print in Vol. 14 of the review journal *Progress in Crystal Growth and Characterisation*. There are 12 chapters of various lengths, written by some 16 authors from West Germany, Austria,

France, UK, India, Japan and Australia. The text is reproduced from typescripts of a wide range of quality and style, often unpleasantly dense on the page, but always legible. The topics covered range from topography to XRF analysis, and emphasize the physics of crystals almost exclusively.

*J. Appl. Cryst.* (1987). **20**, 450

**Physics of radiation effects in crystals.** Edited by *R. A. Johnson and A. N. Orlov*. Pp. xii + 723. Amsterdam: North-Holland, 1986. Price Dfl 395.00. Available in USA/Canada from Elsevier Science Publishers, 52 Vanderbilt Ave, New York, NY 10017, USA. A review of this book, by H. E. Kissinger, has been published in the September 1987 issue of *Acta Crystallographica*, Section A, page 736.