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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.


The structural basis of muscle contraction. By J. Squires. Pp. xviii + 698. New York: Plenum Press, 1981. Price US $65.00. Although not concerned with crystallography directly at all, this book illustrates the importance that X-ray diffraction can have in fields far removed from the study of crystalline material. The degree of organization of protein molecules in muscle is remarkable and the detail of current knowledge of it is most impressive. Electron microscopy, in conjunction with elaborate biochemical and histochemical techniques, is a primary source of information here but X-ray diffraction plays a very important part, employing various specialized cameras, model experiments, Fourier transform and convolution concepts, computed diffraction patterns and, most recently, synchrotron radiation sources.

Structure and bonding. Vol. 47. By J. C. Grenier, M. Pouchard, P. Hagenmuller and others. Pp. 126. Berlin: Springer, 1981. Price DM 64.00, US $29.80. Only the first of the three chapters in this volume is of direct crystallographic interest. This is a 25-page paper (by the authors named above) on vacancy ordering in oxygen-deficient perovskite-related ferrites, which correlates ED, EM and Mössbauer studies. The model proposed, based on vacancy ordering in three successive steps, appears to be well applicable to systems AMO₃₋ₓ, where M is trivalent iron, but less so to other systems.

Compilation of extra-framework sites in zeolites. By W. J. Mortier. Pp. 67. London: Butterworth Scientific, 1982. Price £5.00. US $13.00. This publication, which is not a book but a set of tables with bibliography, will be welcomed by specialists in the field of zeolite science, where synthetic zeolites are now becoming so important as catalysts. The properties of zeolites depend critically on both their framework type and their cation distribution within that framework. This compilation has been drawn up at the request of the International Zeolite Association (IZA) because of the growing numbers of zeolite structures now being published where differences are sometimes no more than the content of exchangeable ions or guest molecules. The objective is to systematize and clarify the situation. Following IUPAC recommendations, zeolite structures are already classified according to their framework into types, of which about 40 are currently recognized. An Atlas of 38 of these types was published by the IZA in 1978; it is a 100-page booklet, obtainable from Polycrystal, Pittsburgh, USA, and Mortier’s compilation should be read in conjunction with that IZA booklet. For each structure-type in turn, Mortier gives a small stereo diagram of the framework, and then gives all reported extra-framework sites, documenting them in detail, with full literature references.
