Notes and News

Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. Copy should be sent direct to the British Co-editor (R. C. Evans, Crystallographic Laboratory, Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England).

Crystallographic Section of the German Mineralogical Society

A Crystallographic Section ('Sektion für Kristallkunde') was organized within the Deutsche Mineralogische Gesellschaft at the Assembly of the latter in Göttingen in August 1950. Prof. H. O'Daniel (The University, Frankfurt a.M.) was elected the first Chairman of this Section and is one of the Vice-Presidents of the mother Society. The objective of this Section will be the advancement of crystallographic studies related to the structure and properties of solid bodies over and beyond the problems of purely mineralogical interest. The Society expects that this new branch will lead to the establishment of close contacts with the related fields in mathematics, physics and chemistry. For this purpose a yearly meeting is planned at which papers will be presented and discussed. Further information may be obtained from Prof. O'Daniel.

Self-binders for *Acta Crystallographica*

Readers are reminded that arrangements have been made with Messrs Easibind Ltd., Pilot House, Mallow Street, London E.C. 1, England, for the provision of self-binders for *Acta Crystallographica*. The binders are designed to carry the twelve parts of two successive volumes which are held without damage by steel wires. They may be used either for temporary or for semi-permanent binding and are accordingly supplied in two styles:

(1) Lettered with title only.

(2) Lettered with title, volume numbers and years (e.g. Vols. 1 and 2, 1948–9; Vols. 3 and 4, 1950–1).

The price of the binder is 12*s.* 6*d.* post free throughout the world. Orders should be placed direct with Messrs Easibind Ltd., stating clearly which style is required.

Gmelins Handbuch der anorganischen Chemie

Responsibility for the publication of *Gmelins Handbuch* has now been taken over by Verlag Chemie GmbH of Weinheim/Bergstr., Germany, although editorial preparation remains in the hands of the Gmelin-Institut at Clausthal-Zellerfeld. The present eighth edition has been in preparation since 1922, and a detailed prospectus of its present status has recently been issued by Verlag Chemie. This prospectus contains specimen pages with full particulars of the volumes at present available and those in course of preparation. Many of the earlier volumes are now out of print, but arrangements will be made to reprint these if sufficient demand exists. Readers interested in obtaining such reprints are, therefore, invited to approach Verlag Chemie giving details of the volumes required.

Second General Assembly and International Congress

The Programme Committee is willing to accept advertisements of crystallographic equipment and publications for inclusion in the printed programme of the Congress. Manufacturers and publishers interested may obtain full particulars from the Secretary of the Programme Committee (F. E. Wickman, Stockholm 50, Sweden) to whom copy must be sent not later than 15 April 1951.

Crystallography in Belgium

A list of crystallographic laboratories in Belgium has recently been published by the Belgian Royal Academy (Palais des Académies, rue Ducale 1, Brussels) in the form of an appendix to its 1950 *Yearbook*. This list gives particulars of some thirty academic and industrial laboratories together with a detailed inventory of the crystallographic equipment available in each.

X-rays

The Editors have received a number of parts of the journal *X-rays* published quarterly by The Group of X-ray Workers in Japan. Each issue comprises original contributions, review articles, news items of crystallographic interest, and abstracts of foreign papers. The issue dated June 1950 is no. 1 of vol. 6. The journal is entirely in Japanese except that the original papers are accompanied by abstracts in English. The editorial address is c/o Faculty of Science, Osaka University, Nakanoshima, Osaka, Japan.

Book Reviews

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Editor (P. P. Ewald, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, 99 Livingston Street, Brooklyn 2, N.Y., U.S.A.). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.

Materialprüfung mit Röntgenstrahlen unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Röntgenmetallkunde. Par R. Glocker. Pp. viii + 440, avec 349 figs. Berlin, Göttingen et Heidelberg: Springer. 3ème édition augmentée. 1949. Prix DM. 58.

Une nouvelle édition du livre de Dr Glocker vient de paraître dans d'excellentes conditions matérielles, conditions que nous serions heureux en France de connaître pour nos livres scientifiques. Les premières éditions datant de 1936 et de 1944 sont bien connues des spécialistes et ont rendu de grands services à de très nombreux chercheurs. Aussi n'est-il besoin de rendre compte ici que des additions faisant l'originalité de la dernière édition.

Le développement nouveau le plus important est consacré aux mesures des tensions internes par les rayons X,

qui sont examinées à la fois du point de vue expérimental et théorique: ce chapitre donne au lecteur une idée très claire des possibilités actuelles des rayons X dans ce domaine. Un autre chapitre nouveau est consacré à la diffraction par les corps amorphes et l'interprétation des diagrammes par l'analyse de Fourier suivant les méthodes de Zernicke & Prins. L'intérêt de ces chapitres vient de ce que l'auteur a travaillé personnellement ces questions et que le lecteur y trouvera des renseignements de première main.

Signalons en outre que le lecteur trouvera au cours de l'ouvrage la description du bétatron, un aperçu sur les méthodes microradiographiques et sur l'utilisation des compteurs Geiger–Müller tant en radiographie qu'en cristallographie. Enfin les photographies d'appareils ont été remplacées par celles de récents modèles (de construction allemande).

Mais peut-on dire que le traité dans son ensemble a été 'auf den neuesten Stand gebracht'? Par exemple nous pensons qu'il est dommage de voir dans un livre publié en 1949, les unités Ångström et kX. encore confondues, alors que les prochaines *Tables Internationales* feront usage des nouvelles valeurs des longueurs d'onde (1,540 A. au lieu de 1,537 kX. pour Cu $K\alpha$). Le tableau de Mendeleïeff (p. 44) paraîtra démodé aux jeunes étudiants. Ce qui est plus important, c'est qu'en de nombreux endroits on aurait aimé voir citées des techniques récentes qui sont maintenant d'un usage courant. Notons par exemple qu'il n'est pas fait mention des tubes à fenêtre de beryllium des tubes à haute tension (de 1 à 5 000 000 volts) de l'index d'Hanawalt pour l'identification des diagrammes, des possibilités introduites dans l'analyse spectrale par les cristaux courbés, des progrès qu'a permis pour les diagrammes de poudre l'usage de chambres de grand diamètre ou de monochromateurs, progrès qui répondent partiellement aux souhaits formulés par l'auteur (p. 224), etc. Mais ces remarques prouvent seulement que la mise à jour d'un ouvrage par son propre auteur est une tâche probablement très difficile. Cela ne veut pas dire que tel qu'il est, nombre d'entre nous ne soient contents de pouvoir à nouveau consulter le livre de Glocker, qu'il était impossible, avant cette nouvelle édition, de se procurer.

Je voudrais faire enfin une dernière remarque: dans un traité de ce genre, il ne peut être question de faire une bibliographie complète de sujets traités. L'auteur ne peut que choisir un petit nombre de travaux qui illustrent son exposé. Mais on est frappé au cours de la lecture de trouver parmi les références une très forte majorité de travaux allemands, alors que souvent il n'est pas tenu compte de résultats importants obtenus dans d'autres pays. C'est là sans doute la conséquence des difficultés de documentation que l'auteur a rencontrées au cours de ces dernières années. Mais on aurait souhaité que celui-ci profite de l'actuelle perméabilité des frontières aux idées et aux livres, pour éviter que ses jeunes lecteurs gardent une vue partielle—sinon partiale—des progrès de nos connaissances dans le domaine des rayons X.

A. GUINIER

Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers
292 Rue St Martin
Paris III, France

Mineralogische Tabellen. By H. STRUNZ. Pp. xiv+308, with 73 figs. Leipzig: Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft Geest und Portig K.-G. 2nd ed., 1949. Price DM. 21·00.

This is the second edition of the well-known tables of H. Strunz which were first published in 1941. The intended scope of the work is a tabulation of all minerals, both valid and discredited, and to give an outline of crystal chemistry. How this is done is most easily demonstrated by the following headings, taken from the book:

Einleitung	6 pages
Einführung in die Kristallchemie	
Allgemeine Definition und Gesetze	24 pages
Spezielle Kristallstrukturen	40 pages
Systematik der Mineralien auf kristallchemischer Grundlage	171 pages
Ausgeschiedene Mineralnamen und Register	70 pages
Neuere Literatur zur Kristall- und Mineralkunde	2 pages

The introductory chapters on crystal chemistry have been enlarged and partly rewritten, and they are on the whole, in comparison with the first edition, more readable and useful. For instance, a small practical detail may be stated—in the earlier edition the atomic and ionic radii could only be read from a schematic graph, but in this edition they have been tabulated. The short descriptions of typical and important crystal structures have only been slightly modified.

The main interest of the would-be user of this book can be considered to lie in the correctness and completeness of the information given in the systematic tabulation of minerals. For every mineral the chemical formula, the crystal class, the space group, the unit-cell dimensions, the number of formula units in the cell, and the morphological elements are given, if known. The name of the investigator and year of publication are also given in a great number of cases where X-ray data are known. I think this is a very good idea, and it is only to be hoped that Strunz, in a new edition, will complete this type of information, which is of great value to his readers. The original principles of classification used by Strunz have remained unchanged and have already been discussed in various reviews of the first edition.

It is evident that it is impossible completely to avoid misprints and mistakes in a work of this kind. The first edition was very useful in spite of the fact that it contained a number of errors, most of which were without doubt the result of difficulties arising from the war. In order to ascertain the reliability of the second edition I have worked with it for some months and have checked all data which I have used. The difficulties mentioned above have in no way lessened, and so it is remarkable that Strunz has been able to correct and complete this new edition to such an extent.

Through the helpful co-operation of many colleagues a large number of papers published during and after the war were made accessible to Strunz, but nevertheless a number of omissions occur—due no doubt to the present difficult situation. An example may serve to illustrate this. Even the most recent papers of Peacock's Toronto school have been taken into account by Strunz, but it is evident that he has not seen Peacock's paper of 1940 on