

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).

Gmelins Handbuch der anorganischen Chemie

The Gmelin Verlag announces that it has been necessary to revise the prices of certain volumes of the *Gmelin Handbuch* as follows:

- Sauerstoff 2* (see *Acta Cryst.* (1952), 5, 300). DM. 119.
Arsen (see *Acta Cryst.* (1952), 5, 860). DM. 264.
Magnesium A 4 (see *Acta Cryst.* (1952), 5, 860). DM. 189.

Acta Crystallographica: Important Notice

Readers are reminded that bona fide crystallographers may obtain this journal for their private use at a reduced price. Such subscriptions, at a rate of 100 Danish crowns or \$14 or £5 post free, can be accepted *only if placed direct* with Messrs Ejnar Munksgaard (Nørregade 6, Copenhagen, Denmark)* or with the Polycrystal Book Service (84 Livingston Street, Brooklyn 1, N.Y., U.S.A.) and *must be accompanied by a declaration* that the journal will be used solely for the personal purposes of the subscriber. Unless such a declaration is given, correspondence and delay will be involved. Proposals are still awaited from some of the Adhering Bodies and at present it is possible to offer this concession only as follows:

Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, German Federal Republic, India, Italy, Sweden

Crystallographers in these countries should apply to the Secretary of their National Committee:

- F. Machatschki, Mineralogisches Institut der Universität, Vienna.
 R. Van Tassel, Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Rue Vautier 31, Brussels.
 E. Tavora, Faculdade Nacional de Filosofia, Av. Pres. Antonio Carlos 40, Rio de Janeiro, D.F.

* Payment to Messrs Munksgaard may be made either direct to Copenhagen or to their account at the Chase National Bank, New York 15, N.Y., U.S.A. or to their account at Hambros Bank Ltd, 41 Bishopsgate, London E. C. 2, England.

- A. Tovborg Jensen, Den Kgl. Veterinær- og Landbohøjskoles kemiske Laboratorium, Copenhagen V.
 G. Menzer, Universitätsinstitut für Kristallographie und Mineralogie, Luisenstrasse 37/II, Munich 2.
 The Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research, Government of India, New Delhi.
 G. Giacomello, The University, Rome.
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Canada, France, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, U.S.A.

The reduced subscription is available only to members of the following societies:

- The Canadian Association of Physicists, the Canadian Institute of Chemistry, the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, the Royal Society of Canada. Société Chimique de France, Société de Chimie Physique, Société Française de Métallurgie, Société Française de Minéralogie et Cristallographie, Société Française de Physique.
 The Crystallographic Society of Japan.
 Nederlandsche Chemische Vereeniging, Nederlandsche Natuurkundige Vereeniging.
 Det Kgl. Norske Videnskabers Selskab, Norsk Geologisk Forening, Norsk Kjemisk Selskab.
 Asociación Española de Cristalografía.
 Société Suisse de Mathématique, Société Suisse de Physique, Société Suisse de Chimie, Société Suisse de Minéralogie et de Pétrographie.
 The Chemical Society, the Faraday Society, the Institute of Metals, the Institute of Physics*, the Iron and Steel Institute, the Mineralogical Society, the Physical Society, the Royal Society.
 The American Crystallographic Association.

In placing their orders, subscribers in these countries should state of which society they are members.

Further announcements will be made as soon as it is possible to give details of arrangements in other countries.

* Members of the X-ray Analysis Group may place their orders with the Institute of Physics (47 Belgrave Square, London S.W. 1, England) at a price of £5.

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.

Reports on Progress in Physics. Edited by A. C. STICKLAND. Pp. 407, with many figs. and plates. London: Physical Society. 1953. Price 50s.

This volume contains nine articles. Only as far as they are

likely to be of special interest to the readers of this journal are they reviewed here.

Neutron Diffraction, by G. E. BACON & K. LONSDALE, is a very complete account of the subject, 61 pages long and with some 135 references. Review articles by various

authors have appeared fairly regularly over the years, but the field is growing fast and this new report certainly fills a need.

As the names of the authors would make one expect, the emphasis is on the application to structure determination. Well over half the article is taken up by the fundamentals (including an up-to-date table of nuclear scattering powers). Apparatus and techniques are described only very briefly. The rest of the article is a summary of the structure determinations that have been done up to now.

The unwary reader might have been saved some confusion by a clear warning against the unfortunate circumstance that the word 'polarization', when used with reference to neutron beams, has a meaning quite different from that which the X-ray crystallographer is likely to attach to it. Now he will learn on p. 6 that the intensity formulae for neutron scattering contain no factor corresponding to the 'polarization factor', yet on p. 17 there is reference to a 'polarized' neutron beam. In other respects, anyone who wishes to become acquainted with the field will find this an excellent introduction, while the X-ray crystallographer who is not in the first place interested in neutron diffraction for its own sake may find it refreshing to see how such concepts as incoherence and secondary extinction, which, in his domain, are often purely academic, here assume an entirely different order of importance.

The next four articles are to a varying degree concerned with the field of solid-state physics:

Physical Properties and Atomic Arrangement in Crystals by W. A. WOOSTER (21 pages). The author has wanted to avoid the somewhat beaten path of the alkali halides, and has selected four properties on which much work has been done lately, these being the magnetic, optical, piezoelectric and elastic properties. Inevitably there is some overlap with the preceding article (MnO and the ferrites). There are some inaccuracies: the terms 'fourfold' and 'sixfold' are used to denote the different positions in the spinel structure, and a reference to Slater's paper has been omitted from the discussion of the KH_2PO_4 transition.

Raman Effect in Solids by A. C. MENZIES (25 pages). Here the emphasis is on the alkali halides. Raman's lattice dynamics are discussed briefly.

Paramagnetic Resonance by B. BLEANEY & K. W. H. STEVENS (42 pages).

Semiconductor Circuit Elements by J. S. BLAKEMORE, A. E. DE BARR & J. B. GUNN (56 pages).

The remaining articles are:

Electrical Discharges by F. LLEWELLYN JONES (50 pages).

Fluctuation Theory in Physical Measurements by C. W. McCOMBIE (55 pages).

Cosmology by W. H. McCREA (43 pages).

The New Unstable Cosmic-Ray Particles by G. D. ROCHESTER & C. C. BUTLER (43 pages).

Of these, the second deals with a problem that is of importance in almost any kind of experimental work, and the third will not fail to fascinate its readers.

J. A. GOEDKOOP

Joint Establishment for Nuclear Energy Research
Kjeller, Lilleström, Norway

Introduction to Solid State Physics. By CHARLES KITTEL. Pp. xiii + 396 with many figs. New York: Wiley; London: Chapman and Hall. 1953. Price \$7; 56s.

This is a most welcome book. One difficulty about solid-state physics is that there is much doubt in the minds of senior students of physics and others as to what solid-state physics means. For example, one frequently encounters students who appear to believe that ferromagnetism is not included under this heading; such students will find much enlightenment in this book. Another difficulty is that there is a wealth of valuable, specialized monographs and treatises on many aspects of the solid state, but, unfortunately, they nearly all require mathematical knowledge which is not possessed by the average intelligent student, who needs above all that emphasis shall be placed on the basic physical principles involved.

Now, Charles Kittel is well known as a research worker of considerable vision and a writer of great clarity, and his book is exactly what one would expect from him. The contents are admirably collated, and the several sections are all lucidly treated. If one may single out particular sections for special praise, one may mention the chapter on dielectric constants with its admirable statement of dielectric field concepts; the chapter on ferroelectric crystals with its discussion of dielectric phenomena near the Curie point; the chapter on ferromagnetism and antiferromagnetism with its very neat treatment of gyromagnetic difficulties; and the chapters on the band theory of metals, on semiconductors and imperfections in solids, all containing notable contributions.

In every case the basic physical principles are carefully set forth and, where necessary, important mathematical proofs are relegated to an Appendix. The whole work is properly illustrated and supplied with many tables of physical constants. Indeed, one could learn quite a lot merely by studying the illustrations with their clear and helpful legends. Apart from a few obvious misprints, easily corrected in a future edition, the book is excellently produced. It is unreservedly recommended.

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