BOOK REVIEWS

Ho (C. S.) and Lee (Chin-Nan). *Economic minerals of Taiwan.* Geol. Surv. Taiwan, Taipei, China. 1963. xvi+495 pp., 6 pls. (maps), 32 text-figs., 127 tables.

This book supersedes C. S. Ho's *Mineral Resources of Taiwan*, which appeared in 1953 (M.A. **12**–366), and is a comprehensive account of the geology and mineral deposits of the island of Taiwan (Formosa) based on the work of the geological survey and of prospecting and mining companies. The country is not rich in minerals, but has a considerable variety of deposits. Coal, gold, and sulphur are mined on a moderate scale, and there is, or has been, production of petroleum, magnetite sand, ores of manganese, copper, and mercury, and of asbestos, talc, mica, graphite, gypsum, limestone, dolomite, and glass sand. After outlining the geography and geology of the island (60 pages), coal, petroleum, and natural gas are treated at length (130 pages), the metalliferous deposits in 73 pages, and other industrial rocks and minerals occupy the remaining 200 pages. Naturally economic rather than mineralogical aspects are stressed, but several chemical analyses of minerals are given (including complete analyses of anglesobarite, monazite, and zircon), and sources of detailed information are indicated. The book is well produced and easy to use, and forms a very useful guide to the minerals of the country, especially as many minor occurrences are described as well as the important economic deposits. T. Deans

Rankama (K.). *Progress in Isotope Geology.* London (Interscience Publishers), 1963. xvii+705 pp. Price: 150*s*.

This book, a sequel to the author's *Isotope Geology* published in 1956, is a progress report and incorporates relevant literature up to September 1959.

Part I of the book, which includes chapters on Principles, Isotopy, Geological Applications of radioactivity, is essentially the same as in the previous book, although there are several additions including a section on thermoluminescence. The chapter on Mass Analysis has been considerably shortened and the section on mass spectrometers omitted. Part II deals with the abundance and abundance relationships of the nuclides in nature. The arrangement and general treatment of each nuclide follows the author's first book, but the data presented are almost