

under the direction of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and brings a host of Russian data to the notice of non-Russian-reading scientists.

D. L. HAMILTON

MÜLLER (G.) and FRIEDMAN (G. M.), editors. *Recent Developments in Carbonate Sedimentology in Central Europe*. Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York (Springer-Verlag), 1968, viii+255 pp., 168 figs. Price DM58; U.S. \$14.50.

The misleading title of this slim volume comprising thirty profound complementary specialist papers contributed to 1967 Heidelberg Carbonate Seminar should not deter the reader. It is not parochial in content or approach. The volume is an education in itself and is commended to all who deal with carbonates. The contributions, many of which have not been available in English before, cover a wide range of problems of world wide application: diagenesis, chemistry, biochemistry, geomicrobiology, pressure solution, experimental studies, electron microscope studies, microporosity, and gasometric determinations, not to mention the regional carbonate petrology of both fresh water and marine carbonates and the organic aspects involved therein. [Full details of authors and titles are given in M.A.20-244.]

J. A. E. B. H.

COORAY (P. G.). *An Introduction to the Geology of Ceylon*. Colombo (Nat. Mus. Ceylon), 1967. xxvii+324 pp., 102 figs., 39 pls., 2 maps (in pocket), 22 tables, (reprinted from *Spolia Zeylanica*, vol. 31, pt. 1). Price Rs 29 (45s.).

This useful book is a comprehensive and up-to-date introduction to, and summary of, Ceylon geology. It is addressed most directly to the Ceylon student but has also a much wider appeal.

There are three parts. The first, 'Geological Principles and Processes', is a brief (three chapters) but lucid indication of what geology is, written for the reader with little or no knowledge of the subject.

The second part, the 'Geology of Ceylon' (eight chapters), discusses the major physical features, the nature, origin, and distribution of the main rock types and associated economic minerals, and the geological evolution of the island. It is perhaps to the author's credit that he has not allowed his own specialised interest in the crystalline rocks to run away with him, and all geological aspects are thoroughly covered.

The third part, 'Geology and the Community' (three chapters) deals interestingly with the relationship of the island's ground water to geology, the application of geology to engineering in Ceylon, and the geology and soils of Ceylon.

There are five appendices. As indicated by the number of figures, maps, tables, and plates, the book is well illustrated, though the plates are of only moderate quality. The beginner is supplied with a comprehensive glossary of geological terms, and a bibliography of 94 references is available for those who need more detail. The separate map, depicting the geology of Ceylon, is the most recent and complete compilation known to the reviewer.