

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.

The second and third parts of the book abound with the names of places that exemplify the described geological features, thus enlivening the data and testifying to the author's excellent first-hand knowledge of the island and supplementary reading.

Unfortunately, the text suffers from insufficient checking and care in final compilation. Some forty-five typesetting and spelling errors were counted by the reviewer and these do not include a large number of incorrect cross references to figure numbers, dates of publications, etc. Several minor errors of fact also occur, such as the definition of hypersthene as a magnesium-iron-calcium silicate (p. 99), and the assignment of diopside to the orthorhombic system (p. 309).

The above deficiencies notwithstanding, the *Geology of Ceylon* is a most timely publication, and should be read by all who are interested in the subject or whose work is related to it.

R. L. OLIVER

PANDE (I. C.). *Economic Minerals of India*. Nagpur (Datsuns), 1967. xii+132 pp., 4 figs., 16 photos. Price Rs 6 (9s. 6d.).

This small handbook is designed to serve the elementary needs of Indian university students, whose studies include the mineral resources of India. One chapter provides a general introduction to deposits, while the remainder deals, by use, with a wide range of economic minerals. Each chapter briefly lists the mineralogy, a few properties, and the Indian occurrences of the relevant element or mineral. The book is a series of notes for a short lecture course on Indian deposits and economic minerals in general. Size prevents a satisfactory treatment of either of these topics while the extremely poor reproduction of the photographs leaves some of them unidentifiable.

J. McM. M.

KOSTOV (I.). *Mineralogy*. Author's translation from the original text in Bulgarian, edited by P. G. Embrey and J. Phemister. Edinburgh (Oliver and Boyd), 1968. 587 pp., 505 figs. Price £10. 10s.

This book is divided into two parts. Part I is general mineralogy and occupies 75 pages. Part II is systematic mineralogy and occupies the remainder of the book. Part I consists of a brief introduction to crystal chemistry, a section on morphology, physical properties, and determination of minerals, and finally the genesis of minerals. These sections are of necessity brief and could in the reviewer's opinion have been omitted completely because the space devoted to each topic is so limited as to be very incomplete: e.g. in the genesis of minerals, the topic of metamorphism is dealt with in two pages of text.

In Part II the minerals are divided into twelve classes: elements; sulphides and sulphosalts; halides; oxides and hydroxides; silicates; borates; phosphates, arsenates, and vanadates; tungstates and molybdates; sulphates; chromates; carbonates; nitrates and iodates.

In the preface Professor Kostov states that 'The essential difference from all other