

emphasized: the genesis of kimberlite, and of its diamonds, is probably a process of very long duration.

R. A. HOWIE

WEBER (J. N.), Editor. *Geochemistry of Germanium* (Benchmark Papers in Geology). Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania (Dowden, Hutchinson, and Ross), 1974. xiv+466 pp., 148 figs., 2 pls. Price \$23.00.

It is an unenviable task to have to select, without significant omission, a number of important papers on this topic. The 43 papers that were chosen, however, cover the subject-matter well except that there is very little on the general crystal chemistry of germanium. Special attention has been given to papers on germanium in meteorites and on meteorite classification, especially those by J. T. Wasson, published in the usually accessible *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*.

The editor's comments are short and do not add much to the value of the book. The quality of production is generally good but the reproduction of photomicrographs is barely adequate and in the reviewer's copy the pages were bound in the wrong sequence. This book is unlikely to be a strong contender for the use of library funds especially when a library already has the *Handbook of Geochemistry* (*Min. Mag.* **38**, 533-4). The chapter on germanium in the latter is undoubtedly of more use for a summary of the pre-1969 literature and for its good bibliography. Weber's book has the advantage that more than twenty of the selected papers were published between 1966 and 1970 and some of these are from the less accessible Russian journals.

P. HENDERSON

KUDRYAVTSEV (A. A.). *The Chemistry and Technology of Selenium and Tellurium* (Transl. from the 2nd Russian edition and revised by E. M. ELKIN). London and Wellingborough (Collet's Ltd.), 1974. viii+278 pp., 56 figs. Price £4.75.

THIS convenient handbook provides a useful ready reference for mineral chemists, metallurgists, and economic mineralogists whose research interests are concerned with the physical and chemical properties of selenium and tellurium, together with their inorganic and organic compounds and various binary alloy systems.

A brief introduction includes a review of the geochemistry of the two elements, and tables of minerals containing selenium and tellurium, several of which are incorrectly spelt (krennerite, montbrayite, csiklovaite) and in which there are a considerable number of omissions.

The main body of the work is sectionalized as follows: (1) Properties of selenium, (2) Selenium compounds, (3) Properties of tellurium, (4) Tellurium compounds, (5) Equilibrium systems of sulphur, (6) Binary systems of selenium and tellurium, (7) Recovery methods, (8) and (9) Recovery methods, (10) Materials of Construction, (11) Chemical Analysis, (12) Uses, and (13) Health and Safety Aspects. The bibliography lists 851 references.