

occurs with mica at the contact of a carbonatite and a cancrinite-bearing syenite. Inevitably definitions quoted from the original listing have become in some cases inappropriate due to later classification: thus pyroxmangite should not now be considered to be a pyroxene but a pyroxenoid with a Siebenerketten configuration.

The style makes this book eminently readable and one soon finds one needs to keep it handy for quick reference. It is a pity, though understandable on financial grounds, that not all mineral names are to be found, only those propagated since 1897. Thus one really needs to keep Hey's *Chemical index of minerals* and its appendices, or at least Fleischer's *Glossary of mineral species*, also to hand. One spots occasional infidelities or omissions such as spessartite (rather than spessartine), under spandite: Harry von Eckermann (eckermannite) died in 1969, and joesmithite was named in honour of J. V. Smith.

Altogether a useful and enjoyable book, giving much information wrested from hidden or obscure sources, but one which by its very nature will become dated as the discovery of further new minerals is reported. It invites comparison with the recent work by Mitchell (MM 44, 114), though the latter is more directly concerned with the several ways in which mineral names are assigned and lacks the mineralogical data and original references of the present volume.

R. A. HOWIE

Derry, D. H. *A concise world atlas of geology and mineral deposits*. London (Mining Journal Books, 15 Wilson St., London, EC2M 2TR) (1980). 110 pp., 8 figs., 10 coloured maps. Price £20.00 (post-free surface mail).

This really is jet-age geology. Relax with your seat-belt loosened and peer down from 30,000 feet on to a colourful panorama of Permian sediments, Cretaceous ophiolites, Palaeozoic volcanics; here a coal basin or a porphyry copper, there a major thrust or site of a terrible earthquake. Down to 500 feet over rocks 500 million years of age, and even after landing you can turn the page and say to your friendly Mongolian taxi-driver 'take me to number two Ul, Leniadom'; for at the back of this excellent book are the names and addresses of 153 geological surveys, institutes, mine departments, etc., all over the world. And who more likely than the author will you encounter by chance in the transit lounge; the much-travelled Duncan Derry 'a very successful explorer for, and developer of, minerals, he has worked in all continents . . . maintaining a keen and critical interest . . . in both the practice and theory of the geological sciences' to quote from the Foreword by Kingsley Dunham.

The book begins with an introduction to geology, based on plate tectonics and simple enough to ensure the book can reach a wide readership of both geologists and interested laymen; and there is a copious glossary at the back of the book. Landscape, structure, vulcanicity, seismicity, and the evolution of life are displayed with the help of some neat little world maps and diagrams, as a setting for a brief introduction to the world's mineral wealth.

The main part of the book consists of ten coloured geological maps each accompanied by a description of the geological history and mineral resources of a major mass of land. Notes are added to the maps to highlight unique and interesting geological features or events and major structures are shown on both land and sea. The mineral information is shown by words and symbols indicating mineral fields and provinces, but here and there a note is added about some individual deposit or mine for some reason of historical, geological, or economic interest. The scales and projections of the maps have been skilfully chosen to show as much on a page as possible and with minimum distortion of shape. Putting the whole of the Americas on one double page spread is a triumph of cartographic art, but the detail gets a little crowded around Toronto and Salt Lake City. The whole world (save a few ocean areas) is shown, including two intriguing polar views of the Arctic and Antarctic.

World mineral resources are summarized in a special section showing charts of the top dozen or so countries by annual production in 1979 or estimates of reserves. Twenty-seven mineral commodities are included; metals, non-metallic minerals, and energy minerals.

Atlases have been a persistent feature of geological publication and they are always welcome. This one is nicely designed, the text well written, and the cartography and colour printing of a very high standard. Compared with the mammoth Geological World Atlas published by UNESCO, Derry's is more portable and at £20 more purchasable. Being 260 mm by 335 mm it fits in the side pocket of my airline bag, and despite its weight of just over a kilo (the binding is a little heavy) I am certain by copy has many miles to go.

COLIN J. DIXON

Schmidt, W., and Malzahn, H. *Industriemineral diamant*. Leipzig (VEB Deutscher Verlag für Grundstoffindustrie) (1980). 502 pp., 111 figs., 14 pls. Price 47.00 M.

Mankind has been fascinated with diamond for at least two millennia. Today the interest is greater