

or not your subscription covers them—they may be the only up-to-date surveys of mineralogically significant regions.

M. J. O'DONOGHUE

Cruse, B. and Hentschel, G. (Eds.). *Zur Mineralogie und Geologie des Rheinischen Schiefergebirges*. Sonderband nr 33 of *Aufschluss*, 1990. 224 pp., illustrated in black-and-white and in colour.

The Rheinisches Schiefergebirge includes the volcanic area of the Eifel and papers in this volume describe the geology, palaeontology and mineralogy of the area as well as of the Ems and Westerwald districts. Short bibliographies are included in each paper and some accounts of mining are given. Trilobites from the Devonian in the Eifel region are major fossil features of this area west of the Rhine.

M. J. O'DONOGHUE

Rock, N. M. S. *Lamprophyres*. Glasgow (Blackie and Son Ltd.), 1990. viii + 285 pp., 13 maps. Price £49.00.

This book will be both loved and hated. It is packed with 'science' but is written in Rockese, i.e. a language which incorporates non-standard abbreviations, mostly mnemonic, created by Rock. For instance, 'CAL are most typical of convergent, AL/UML of divergent or passive, and LL/KIL of intra-plate settings.' By the time I had worked out what LL and KIL are (having turned to appendix A on pp. 214–16 for the code). I had forgotten what the others were, let alone thought out the deeper meaning of it all. This is compounded by the type unfortunately used by the printers, which does not distinguish between l (the letter) and 1 (the number). Thus M1, which includes melilitic rocks, is magma type number one, as I discovered on getting to p. 138 (it is not in appendix A). This is not to be confused with Ml, which is a common abbreviation for melilite (Rock's is Me). I nearly exploded on picking my way through this minefield of codings when I encountered TNT. That is Rockese for Ti-Nb-Ta (p. 215) or Ta-Nb-Ti (p. 134), and is used in describing -ve anomalies in spidergrams. I really fear that this potentially most informative book, on a subject of vital interest, may not be readable by ordinary geologists. Nor do I think there is an up-and-coming generation of petrologists who will happily talk about 'OL being an LL with oliv', to use three Rockese terms.

Rock includes lamproite and kimberlite within the lamprophyres. This is unfortunate, and clouds

the discussions about 'true' lamprophyres. IUGS did, in 1989, temporarily classify lamproite and kimberlite within 'lamprophyric rocks' but Rock adjusts this to 'lamprophyres'. Lamproites and kimberlites are not lamprophyres. Rock's 1977 definition of lamprophyre in *Earth-Science Review* is better.

Nine chapters on 153 pages build half the book. Chapters 1–6 cover the history, classification, distribution, rock associations, petrography, mineralogy, geochemistry and xenolithic inclusions. The well-chosen data presented in these chapters are relentlessly methodical and easily accessed via the detailed list of contents (pp. v–viii) or the index. The tight text is relieved by invaluable maps, tables, binary and ternary diagrams illustrating the geochemistry of the major, trace and rare earth elements, and of the stable and radiogenic isotopes. Chapter 7, which includes a contribution by A. E. Wright and D. R. Bowes, is a novel in-depth analysis of the plutonic and volcanic equivalents of the lamprophyres. Chapter 8, on petrogenesis, cogently argues a mantle origin for most lamprophyres. Chapter 9 dwells on the association with gold and diamonds. The 'selected bibliography' at >1500 coded references on 57 pages is comprehensive. Appendix A interprets the ~200 Rockese terms; appendix B is an 8-page invaluable glossary of lamprophyric terminology; appendix C comprises 8 well compiled tables covering 40 pages based on distribution and type; and appendix D gives the rationale of his computerized lamprophyre database LAMPDA. The 11 page index is thorough.

'Lamprophyres' is a real break-through in a previously intractable subject and, despite its pitfalls, must be consulted by all petrologists.

M. J. LeBAS

Glasson, K. R. and Rattigan, J. H. (Eds.). *Geological Aspects of the Discovery of some Important Mineral Deposits in Australia*. Parkville, Victoria (Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy: Monograph 17), 1990. x + 503 pp., 70 sketch-maps.

This monograph is a collection of 55 papers which overview the histories and geological aspects of exploration of the major mineral deposits in Australia. These include gold, copper, lead–zinc–silver, tin and tungsten, iron, coal, heavy mineral sands, aluminium, nickel, diamonds and uranium. Although published in 1990, most papers appear to have been written in 1986 although some contain references to 1989 (e.g. diamonds). Nevertheless this volume contains a wealth of