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**Economics of Atomic Energy.** *Mary Goldring.* Philosophic Library Inc., New York. 1957. ii+179 pp. \$6.00.

This book was written for a popular, and primarily a British, audience. Its principal purpose seems to be that of evaluating the range of politico-economic influences of the British atomic energy program. The author's technique is impressionistic, indeed, probably too much so for even a popular account, with emphasis being placed on personalities and external appearances.

The opening and closing chapters are almost unconsciously hung on a loose travelogue of British atomic energy installations. A light, surprisingly inaccurate description of atomic technologies is included. The most serious part of the book is found in three central chapters on atomic power for British home consumption and overseas trading interests.

Miss Goldring's broad general comments on the role of atomic energy in underdeveloped countries and on the export market for British atomic products are germane and significant, though incomplete. Where closer economic analysis is required in the specific case of atomic power for Britain, her discussion falls short of an adequate treatment.

RICHARD A. TYBOUT

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**Concise International Dictionary of Mechanics and Geology.** *S. A. Cooper.* Philosophical Library Inc., New York. 1958. viii+400 pp. \$6.00.

Nearly six thousand terms are rendered in English, French, German and Spanish in this compact volume. The dictionary is arranged in English, with the equivalent terms appearing in the order named. A complete index of all the terms is given for each of the three other languages. The suite of terms described in this book is designed to be of service to mechanics, engineers and certain manufacturers. Although geology appears in the title, its terms are not, by far, the major constituent of the book. Geological terms included are: some rocks and minerals, certain structural and economic terms, and some stratigraphic and chronologic terms. Most are concerned with, or most often encountered in connection with, mineral deposits. The entries are very conveniently arranged. Aside from economic geology, this book will be useful in libraries of geology, and as a second dictionary for the general geologist.

MALCOLM P. WEISS

**Philosophy of Atomic Physics.** *Joseph Mudry.* Philosophical Library. 136 pp. \$3.75.

This book is an attempt to present a coherent philosophical structure, not for layman or student but for "the professional analyst who may be in a favorable position of conceiving the various intrinsic truths so interpreted." The author seems to sense the fact that even these readers may not follow him easily so he states in his Preface that "Finally, but imperatively important, it must be impressed that the actual discernment or comprehension of the entire text, entails not merely one causal reading, but more to the contrary, at least two or three in order of grasping the essential points."

From this reviewer's point of view, ten readings might still not reveal any essential points. The author is a wordist, not a master of straight forward clear English, and he has presented his theme of dialecticalatomism in such fantastic language that one wonders how possibly his ideas could be well organized.

The author very properly expresses his gratitude to the firm which has published his book. Few readers will share that feeling. Thomas Bailey Aldrich once said "Who lacks the art to express his thought, I hold were little poorer if he lacked the thought." This seems to me to be a case of point, but, of course, I am just a layman.

THOMAS H. LANGLOIS

**Introduction to Geology.** *H. E. Brown, V. E. Monnett, and J. W. Stovall.* Ginn & Company, Boston. First Edition, 1958. viii+644+xx pp. \$7.25.

Those interested in geology as a cultural course will appreciate this compound text in Physical and Historical Geology since it was written primarily for them. Because of this orientation, the treatment of subject matter is more panoramic than analytical.

Part I embraces the realm of Physical Geology and is so titled. Its chapters dealing with erosional processes and landforms are succinctly and clearly presented, strikingly well illustrated and abreast of the times factually. In contrast the chapters "Diastrophism and its Effects," "Mountains" and "Vulcanism," though descriptively accurate, are perhaps too insulated and conservatively treated. A discussion linking active mountain systems with the present Island Arcs (ignored in the text per se) would have been more effective.

Part II, "Historical Geology," includes a brief survey of the paleontologically important phyla and their development in conjunction with the unfolding of geologic events. All orthodox facts are touched lightly though vividly. New facts have been interwoven into the old throughout; especially in the sections on astronomy and anthropology.

All in all, the book forms a good conservative text for a Liberal Arts course in Geology.

JAMES E. CHRISTOPHER

**Progress in Crystal Physics, Vol. 1 (Thermal, Elastic and Optical Properties).** *R. S. Krishnan, et al.* S. Viswanathan (Central Arts Press), Madras. 1958. vi+198 pp. Rs. 20/-.

This work represents the collaboration of seven persons associated with The Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore, namely: R. S. Krishnan, P. T. Narasimhan, S. Ramaseshan, R. V. G. Sundara Rao, V. Sivaramkrishnan, R. Srinivasan, and K. Vedam.

For non-metallic single crystals, the experimental data are compiled, and present theories are discussed in chapters titled: (1) Thermal Expansion, (2) Thermal Conductivity, (3) Elastic Constants, (4) Photoelastic Effect, (5) Thermo-Optic Behavior, (6) Faraday Effect in Diamagnetic Crystals, and (7) Dielectric Properties of Ionic Crystals. An introduction discusses basic interrelations of physical measurement and crystal symmetry.

Inspection reveals that the tabulations of data are not complete. For example, four sets of elastic constants are given for pyrite, but these do not include two sets of constants that appear in the *Handbook of Physical Constants*. (Geol. Soc. Amer., 1942). The scope of the present compilation is broader, however, and includes such substances as ammonium dihydrogen phosphate.

DUNCAN McDONNELL

**Announcing the appearance of a new series of the Bulletins of The Ohio Biological Survey**

This notice is to announce the appearance of a New Series of Bulletins of The Ohio Biological Survey. The first number in the new series is entitled "The Primeval Forests of a Periglacial Area in the Allegheny Plateau" by Dr. Janice C. Beatley with a check list of vascular plants by Floyd Bartley.

This bulletin of 182 pages is illustrated with 37 figures and a 7-color map insert. It may be purchased from The Ohio Biological Survey, 1885 Neil Avenue, The Ohio State University, Columbus 10, Ohio. List price of this number is \$3.00.

The Ohio Biological Survey is an interinstitutional agency administered through The Ohio State University to foster research and publications concerning the State's flora and fauna. Twenty-four institutions including Ohio colleges, museums and park boards cooperate in this program.