1955-09

Book Notice

The Ohio Journal of Science. v55 n5 (September, 1955), 310
http://hdl.handle.net/1811/4295

Downloaded from the Knowledge Bank, The Ohio State University's institutional repository

The publication is exactly what the title indicates—a handbook, which should be of great use to the teacher who wishes to explore with his class the inorganic natural world around them. Simple basic methods of exploration, collection, study, and identification are given in the principal fields of Earth Science—minerals, rocks, and fossils. In addition the study of the related problems of water supply and soils are made meaningful, and a discussion of our mineral resources is included. An excellent short geologic history of the state is supplied. Many problems and projects are suggested which cover many levels of instruction, and all parts of the state. In fact the handbook might well be used as a text at some levels. Reference lists for books and sources of help are included. One for materials might well have been added.

Some indication of scale on the fossil drawings would be useful also. Perhaps the most serious fault found is the very limited space devoted to rocks, especially the sedimentary rocks in view of the fact that Ohio is covered with them. The casual field observer is much more likely to find different types of rocks to identify than many of the minerals to which so much space is given. Otherwise the book is extremely well done. It fills a great need in Earth Science, a field in which our science teachers are generally less well prepared. It gives these teachers simple aids and projects from which they can advance with confidence. The authors and the state survey are to be commended for providing this manual to aid our science teachers.

John R. Coash