

Cameron sums up the present situation by saying that 'these methods (microchemical tests) were never satisfactory as a main basis for ore mineral identification'. Quantitative optical methods, on the other hand, have a great future. Professor Cameron's book is not merely the only comprehensive and concise introduction to ore microscopy available in English, but it contains much information on reflected light optics that so far has been published in scientific journals only. It will now be extremely difficult to maintain the prejudice that ore microscopy is a subjective technique, based on the observer's ability to distinguish light apple green from light grass green reflection colours. Students, university teachers, research workers, ore geologists, and ore dressing specialists will soon realize that this book is indispensable for their work.

E. F. STUMPFL

BÖRNER (Rudolf). *Minerals, Rocks and Gemstones*. [English translation by W. Mykura of *Welcher Stein ist das?* (1938).] Edinburgh and London (Oliver & Boyd), 1962. xi+250 pp., 14 colour plates. Price 25s.

This inexpensive reference work is a welcome addition to the small number of good books that can be recommended for use by the amateur mineralogist and petrologist. Divided into three parts according to the title, there is a wealth of determinative tables and lists of definitions of terms, together with admirably brief and informative introductory sections. Misprints are few, and deficiencies in the quality of the line drawings are readily forgiven in a book of this character.

P. G. E.