

BOOK REVIEWS

BLACK (G. P.), *Arthur's Seat: a history of Edinburgh's volcano*. Edinburgh (Oliver & Boyd), 1966, 226 pp., 19 figs., 8 plates. Price 35s.

Following the early descriptions of the Arthur's Seat volcano by C. Maclaren (1839, 1866) and A. Geikie (1897), a Geological Survey Memoir and map was published by B. N. Peach in 1921 and a book by T. C. Day in 1933. Since then several papers have been published on the volcano, notably by R. H. Clark (1956), which have mainly contributed more petrographic information. The first chapter of the present book contains a brief description of volcanoes and their products together with an outline classification of igneous rocks. While the book is aimed at the naturalist anxious to learn something of geology, it is nevertheless a complete account of Edinburgh's volcano, illustrated with numerous maps, sections, and photographs. Lavas and ashes on Arthur's Seat and adjacent areas are tabulated without exhaustive petrographic descriptions. There is a glossary of geological terms and a useful excursion guide, which is cross-referenced to the main text and contains National Grid references, which are also printed on the sketch-maps. Localities such as 'Gutted Haddie', 'Hutton's Section', and 'Windy Gowl', which have become geological classics, will have a special nostalgia for Edinburgh geologists who, on their first excursion, traversed all thirteen lava flows on the windswept slopes of Whinney Hill.

T. W. B.

BEUS (A. A.). *Geochemistry of beryllium* (translated by F. Lachman, edited by L. R. Page), San Francisco (Freeman), 1966, 401 pp., 61 figs., 148 tables. Price 105s.

This is a translation of a book published by the Soviet Academy of Sciences in 1960. Both translator and editor are to be congratulated on its readability, a property that many such translations lack. This is a comprehensive book, full of factual information on beryllium and supported by numerous well laid out tables and a lengthy list of references. Figures are in general clear, although marred by their legends, which follow the continental system: that is, the explanation of symbols used is concealed in a lengthy caption below.

The book is arranged in three parts, each of about 150 pages. Part I deals with the chemistry and mineralogy of beryllium in considerable