

spacings and structures of metals and alloys. Pergamon Press, London) and *Chemical Abstracts* from 1961–8. For data published after 1961 the authors have referred critically to original papers ‘as much as possible’; this is very necessary in this field.

A working crystallographer is handicapped by the absence of an abstracts journal devoted to his interests, and reliable collections of data are always welcome. For daily work, mineralogical crystallographers will rely heavily on specialized work to cover their field and the general inorganic field is best covered by Donnay’s *Crystal data (Determinative tables)*. Apart from the question of price, Donnay has one overwhelming advantage over the present volume: the cell dimension data are arranged in order of crystal system and axial ratio, so that the volume can be used to identify an unknown, using its cell dimensions, or in a search for crystallographically related or isomorphous substances. Readers are thus unlikely to want this volume of Landolt-Börnstein on their working shelves, but will be interested to know of its existence (possibly in the reference section of their scientific library). The use of several independent reference works to find scientific data is to be recommended in these days, when such large volumes of data must be reviewed.

R. J. DAVIS

GEBHART (M.) and NEUHAUS (A.). *Epitaxy Data of Inorganic and Organic Crystals*. Volume 8 of Group III of Landolt-Börnstein, *Numerical Data and Functional Relationships in Science and Technology*; ed. K.-H. Hellwege and A. M. Hellwege. Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York (Springer-Verlag), 1972, vii+186 pp. Price \$37.50.

The authors define epitaxy in its broadest sense as ‘any structurally-dependent intergrowth (overgrowth) of two chemically or structurally different crystalline or sub-crystalline phases’, and have aimed at covering the literature from 1836 to 1970. The resulting volume consists mainly of tables (about 140 pages) showing epitaxial relationships between substrate and deposit, systematically arranged according to host substance, and citing approximately 1000 references, listed separately. The authors have undertaken a monumental task and, perhaps inevitably, there are shortcomings. One minor irritation is that no cross-referencing from the literature citations back to the tables is provided, although in other respects the indexing, etc. is admirable.

In everyday life it is a commonplace that one becomes aware of deficiencies in the media only when they are treating a subject which one knows well. Similarly, I have to judge this volume by its coverage of that part of the literature with which I am familiar; this could fairly be described as patchy. Moreover, some of the references cited do not appear to have a corresponding entry in the tables, although it is difficult to check this for the reason already given.

Nevertheless, the book should prove a valuable work of reference for anyone interested in epitaxy or related subjects, although in view of its price workers will be more likely to recommend it for their organization’s library than to purchase it for their own shelves.

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