a useful table of *d*-values for the four strongest lines in the X-ray powder diffraction pattern (the references given there being found in the corresponding sections of the text volume) and a detailed explanation in English of the nomenclature, abbreviations, and symbols wherein one finds that in the tables schl. = poor and zers. = decomposed. It is regrettable, however, that this important work retains the style n_α, n_β, n_γ for refractive indices rather than that of α, β, γ as recommended by the I.M.A. The mineral index is greatly improved and lists the pages on which seven different types of information can be found. Again 244 rock-forming minerals are selected and although one could quibble that it might have been better to include strontianite rather than, say, wagnerite, in general all the minerals a petrographer is likely to meet are included. Because some minerals have been updated and others retain the information of the first edition (1952) [M.A. **12**–4] there are inevitably some inconsistencies but it would be inappropriate to list these in detail. In the reviewer's opinion this work deserves to be more widely known. The mineral orientation diagrams themselves make it an indispensable laboratory manual for all petrographers.

R. A. HOWIE

GUEST (J. E.) and SKELHORN (R. R.), Editors. *Mount Etna and the 1971 eruption.* London (The Royal Society), 1973. Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc., Ser. A, Vol. 274 (no. 1238), pp. 1–179, 89 figs., 3 pls. Price £6.60.

This publication arose from a discussion meeting held at the Royal Society in February 1972, organized jointly by the Royal Society and by the Volcanic Studies Group of the Geological Society. The 19 papers (for full details see M.A.73-3084) summarize the present state of knowledge of the structure, geological history, and eruptive behaviour of the Etna volcano as well as the chemistry and physical properties of its magmatic products, both lavas and gases. The 1971 eruption seems to have produced phonolitic tephrites, tephritic basalts, and later mugearites, but the extremely detailed records for this eruption serve to emphasize how little is known about the chemistry and petrology of the lava of most of the more recent historic eruptions.

R. A. HOWIE