

## BOOK REVIEWS

WASSON (JOHN T.). *Meteorites*, Vol. 10 in the series Minerals and Rocks (P. J. Wyllie, ed.). Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York (Springer-Verlag), 1974. x+316 pp., 70 figs. Price DM 76.00, \$31.10.

This is a welcome addition to the literature on meteorites, with a totally different approach to that of the texts hitherto available. Only 6 pages are allotted to Fall and Recovery and 16 to Morphology and Macrostructure (Chapters XIII and XIV), and the geographical distribution of falls, the distribution of times of fall, and a few other topics are omitted, but these are adequately dealt with elsewhere. Instead, the author deals, as the subtitle indicates, with the Classification and Properties of meteorites, together with the evidence for their origin and detailed history from recent research. The account of recent work is well balanced and thorough, and the book forms an essential summary of the advances of the last two decades, but cannot wholly replace the older texts. In particular, the author has succumbed to the current superstition that no chemical analysis published before 1960 is of any value, and in consequence the lists in Appendices IIB and IIC are notably incomplete in this respect.

M. H. H.

O'CONNOR (MAEVE) and WOODFORD (F. PETER). *Writing Scientific Papers in English*. An ELSE-Ciba Foundation Guide for Authors. Amsterdam, Oxford, and New York (Elsevier—Associated Scientific Publishers), 1975. vi+108 pp. Price Dfl. 21.00.

This is an excellent and detailed account of every step in planning, preparing, and submitting a scientific paper, including good advice on illustrations and tables. It will be of considerable help even to the experienced author, and a godsend to the novice. If every author would take the trouble to read and follow through the advice here given the editor's task would be halved. An essential in the library of every geological or mineralogical department.

M. H. H.

FARADAY (MICHAEL). *Chemical manipulation*. A Royal Institution Library of Science reprint of a rare book published in 1827. London (Applied Science Publishers), 1974. viii+656 pp. Price £12.00.

As Sir George Porter remarks in a foreword: "“Chemical Manipulation” served for many years to initiate young chemists into the skills and arts of the laboratory. It will be read with interest and profit today by all those chemists who still take pleasure and pride in performing their own experiments, as well as by every laboratory technician. Above all, it is an absorbing record of an outstanding chemist and his laboratory in the early nineteenth century."

To Sir George's summary I would only add that Section XVI, entitled Tube Chemistry (pp. 391 to 424), amounts to a very useful microchemical technique, long forgotten and well worth revival.

M. H. H.