Hahn, T., ed. *International Tables for Crystallography, Vol. A: Space-group Symmetry*. Dordrecht, Holland (D. Reidel Publishing Company for the International Union of Crystallography), 1987, xvi + 878 pp. Price Dfl. (US $140, £90).

This is the second revised edition of volume A of 'Int. Tab.' containing much-used diagrams and data for the space groups and their symmetries. The diagrams for the plane groups and trigonal space groups have been re-drawn in exactly the same layout as the triclinic, monoclinic and orthorhombic space groups. In practice, the difference is minimal. The revised edition includes corrections to the previous volume and some minor changes to clarify the text or to add new information or new references. The subject index has also been revised and extended.

Two new sections have been added on normalizers of space groups, a developing field, whose uses extend into direct methods of structure determination, choice of coordinate systems and relationships between them, sphere packings and Dirichlet domains, and group-subgroup relations. But this material is mainly of interest to mathematically inclined crystallographers, at least in its present state of development.

Any mineralogical laboratory undertaking diffraction work or wishing to make the fullest use of crystal structure data will require a copy of 'Int. Tab.', Vol. A. But if they already have the first edition, do they now need the second? Probably not, as the main changes (in the space group information) are only in presentation. Some 30 corrections to the first edition were given in Acta Cryst. **A40**, 485 (1984) and a further list is also to be published in the same journal. But the need for a reprint of the first edition after only one year, and a revised edition after only four, clearly demonstrates the quality of the new 'Int. Tab.' and its value as a source of space group and symmetry information.

J. E. CHISHOLM