FLÜSSIGE KRISTALLE UND LEBEWESEN, REINHARD BRAUNS. XI+111 pages. E. Schweizerbart'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, *Stuttgart*, **1931.**

This volume gives a most comprehensive and worthwhile survey of the literature dealing with liquid crystals and life forms, for it contains abstracts of the 172 articles dealing with these subjects that have appeared during the last fifty years in the *Neues Jahrbuch* and the *Centralblatt für Mineralogie, Geologie and Paleontologie.* In an introduction of seven pages, Professor Brauns reviews briefly the historical development of this field of investigation and naturally emphasizes the pioneer contributions of Lehmann.

EDWARD H. KRAUS

SPECTRUM ANALYSIS IN MINERALOGY. A. A. FITCH. 52 pages. Adam Hilger, Ltd., 24 Rochester Place, Camden Road, *London*, **1931.** Price, 1*s* 9*d*.

Inasmuch as spectrum analysis is occasionally used as an accessory means of identifying mineral species, this small pamphlet will be found extremely helpful. The author summarizes the technique to be employed in making the tests, and both qualitative and quantitative methods are referred to as well as the application of these methods to rock analysis and meteorites. Twenty-four pages are devoted to a summary of the results obtained on minerals that have been spectroscopically analyzed. The booklet concludes with a bibliography of 91 papers dealing with articles on spectrum methods.

W. F. H.

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Maitlandite

EDWARD S. SIMPSON: Contributions to the Mineralogy of Western Australia. *Proc. Roy. Soc. W. Australia*, **16,** 33–35, 1930–31.

NAME: In honor of A. Gibb Maitland, Government Geologist of Western Australia from 1896–1926. Previously described as mackintoshite (*Ann. Rept. Geol. of W. A.*, **1911,** *Geol. Surv. Bull., No.* **48,** 1912; *Jour. Nat. Hist. Sci. Soc. W. A.*, **4,** 1912).

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A hydrous silicate of lead, calcium thorium and uranium, $2(Pb, Ca)O.\ 3ThO_2.\ 4UO_2.\ 8SiO_2.\ 23H_2O$. Analyses: UO_3 tr, tr; UO_2 35.40, 35.60; ThO_2 25.86, 24.72; SiO_2 14.62, 16.19; Ce_2O_3 0.10, 0.10; Yt_2O_3—, 0.25; PbO 6.04, 7.90; FeO 1.57, 0.20; MnO—, 0.07; CaO 6.02, 1.28; MgO—, 0.15; H_2O+ n.d., 12.04; H_2O- n.d., 0.88; $(Ta, Cb)_2O_5$—,.67.

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color black. Luster vitreous. Amorphous. G=4.31–4.45.

OCCURRENCE: At Wodgina, W. Australia. By weathering passes into pilbarite and finally into hydrothorite.

W. F. F.