

CRC HANDBOOK OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS, 59th Edition, 1978-1979. Edited by Robert C. Weast. CRC Press, West Palm Beach, Florida, 1978. 2488 pages. \$44.95 within U.S., \$49.95 outside U.S.

The 59th edition of this classic reference work comprises six sections and a 57-page index. The six separately-paginated sections are: A, Mathematical Tables (121 p.); B, The Elements and Inorganic Compounds (429 p.); C, Organic Compounds (792 p.); D, General Chemical (326 p.); E, General Physical Constants (387 p.); F, Miscellaneous (376 p.). The most useful section for earth scientists is section B; it includes a lengthy essay on the elements (p. B4-B66); physical constants of minerals, which gives name, formula, specific gravity, hardness, crystalline form and color, and indices of refraction (p. B220-B225); X-ray crystallographic data, molar volumes, and densities of minerals and related substances (p. B226-B259). Section D contains a great deal of thermodynamic data, including a lengthy part on lattice energies (p. D88-D108). For cosmochemists, Section E contains tables of physical data for the planets, their satellites and some asteroids (p. F174-F186). This new edition continues the great tradition of this work as a basic data source for all scientists, and should be readily available in every laboratory and library.

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LIST OF BOOKS RECEIVED

HUMID LANDFORMS. By Ian Douglas. Volume One of *An Introduction to Systematic Geomorphology*. MIT Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts. xvi + 288 pages. \$15.00.

MODIFICATION OF SOIL STRUCTURE. Edited by W. W. Emerson, R. D. Bond and A. R. Dexter. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1978. xvii + 438 pages. \$46.00.

COAL DESULFURIZATION PRIOR TO COMBUSTION. Edited by Robert C. Eliot. Noyes Data Corporation, Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656, 1978. x + 307 pages. \$42.00.

OUR CHANGING PLANET. By John Gribbin. Thomas Y. Crowell, New York, 1977. 165 pages. \$7.95.

ROCK BLASTING. By U. Langefors and B. Kihlström. Halsted Press, Wiley, New York. 438 pages. \$25.00.

DESERT LANDFORMS. By J. A. Mabbutt. Volume Two of *An Introduction to Systematic Geomorphology*. MIT Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts. xx + 340 pages. \$15.00.

BORON AND REFRACTORY BORIDES. Edited by V. I. Matkovich. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1977. x + 656 pages. \$82.80.

A DICTIONARY OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. By F. J. Monkhouse and J. Small. Halsted Press, Wiley, New York, 1978. 320 pages. \$19.50.

COAL RESOURCES, CHARACTERISTICS AND OWNERSHIP IN THE U.S.A. Edited by Robert Noyes. Noyes Data Corporation, Park Ridge, New Jersey, 1978. 346 pages. \$45.00.

ODDITIES OF THE MINERAL WORLD. By William B. Sanborn. Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, New York, 1976. 142 pages. \$9.95.

EXPLORATION GEOCHEMISTRY ANALYTICAL METHODS (in Russian with English summaries). Edited by L. V. Tauson. Vinogradov Institute of Geochemistry, Irkutsk, 1977. 244 pages. 1r.19k.

GEOCHEMISTRY OF ENDOGENETIC PROCESSES (in Russian with English summaries). Edited by L. V. Tauson.

Vinogradov Institute of Geochemistry, Irkutsk, 1977. 226 pages. 1r.19k.

REFLECTION SEISMOLOGY: A TOOL FOR ENERGY RESOURCE EXPLORATION. By Kenneth H. Waters. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1978. 377 pages. \$28.00.

NOTICES

MAC Short Course—May 1979

Immediately prior to the 1979 joint meeting of the GAC and MAC in Quebec City, the MAC is sponsoring a Short Course in Mineralogical Techniques of Asbestos Determination. The course begins on the afternoon of Sunday May 20 and continues through May 22. It is designed for those who have some basic understanding of the asbestos mineral group including physical methods in determinative mineralogy, but who are not experts. Enrollment is limited. Deadline for registration is May 1, 1978. Fees are \$250.00 (\$150.00 for full-time students). No registration form is required; a deposit of \$50.00 may be sent to Professor Robert L. Ledoux, Department of Geology, Université Laval, Quebec, Canada, G1K 7P4. Cheques should be made payable to MAC 1979 Short Course, in Canadian currency. Further information may be obtained from Professor Ledoux (416-656-2177).

Nominations for Awards, Honors, and Elected Officers of MSA

Members of the Society are urged to take an active part in making nominations for the awards of the Society. Nominations with adequate documentation should be sent to the Secretary, Mineralogical Society of America, 1909 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, no later than May 1 for transmittal to the appropriate committee. The nominator must be a member of the Society. The various awards are as follows:

1. The **Roebing Medal** is the highest award of the Mineralogical Society of America for scientific eminence as represented primarily by scientific publication of outstanding original research in mineralogy. The science of mineralogy is defined broadly for purposes of the Roebing Award, and a candidate need not qualify as a mineralogist; rather his published research should be related to the mineralogical sciences and should make some outstanding contribution to them. Service to mineralogy, teaching and administrative accomplishment are not to be considered as a primary merit for the award. The award is not restricted to Americans. Nationality, personality, age of the candidate, or place of employment shall not be considered.

2. The **Mineralogical Society of America Award** is given in recognition of an outstanding contribution or series of contributions within the fields of interest to the Society. The work for which the award is given must have been published in a single or series of papers prior to the month in which the candidate's 35th birthday falls. Candidates are limited to persons who shall not have reached the age of 37 before January 1 of the year in which the award is decided upon (1979). The Award shall be made without regard to nationality, personality, or place of employment. Membership in the Mineralogical Society of America or publication in *The American Mineralogist* is not prerequisite.

3. **Fellowship** nominations are invited and forms may be obtained from the Secretary. Three members of the Society must sponsor each nominee.

4. Suggestions for nominations for all offices of the Society are welcome; documentation need not be as extensive as for the awards.

Larry W. Finger, Secretary