

Book reviews

Landolt-Börnstein, Numerical Data and Functional Relationships in Science and Technology, New Series (Editor in Chief K.-H. Hellwege), *Group III. Crystal and Solid State Physics. Vol. 8. Epitaxy Data of Inorganic and Organic Crystals*; by M. Gebhardt and A. Neuhaus. Springer-Verlag, Berlin/Heidelberg/New York, 1972, vii + 186 pages, DM. 118; US\$37.50.

This volume presents epitaxy data for inorganic, organic and organometallic crystals as an extension to information presented in the volumes of crystal structural data, and covers the literature from 1836 to the end of 1970. All those who purchased Vol. V, which was reviewed earlier in this Journal [see *J. Organometal. Chem.*, 32 (1971) C51], will certainly wish to acquire this volume also, and the whole set of volumes on crystal structural data is indispensable in the library of any organization in which there is an interest in structural details.

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Practical Inorganic Chemistry; by G. Marr and B.W. Rockett, Van Nostrand-Reinhold Company, London, 1972, xx + 444 pages, £6.00 (paperback £3.50).

The authors of this textbook have aimed "to provide a comprehensive and balanced course on modern practical inorganic chemistry for university undergraduates". It is certainly impressively comprehensive for its size, and well balanced, and the only question must concern the extent to which the contents can be realistically regarded as a "course", since probably few degree programmes these days would provide sufficient time to cover even a substantial fraction of the experiments described. (The authors recognise this to some extent, since they envisage many of the experiments as involving a group activity, in which each member of the group contributes the synthesis of one or a set of compounds and then participates in the investigation of the physico-chemical properties of the whole set.) But there is no doubt that whatever time is available for laboratory study of inorganic chemistry could be very well used on an appropriate selection of the experiments described in the book, and it is strongly recommended.

All aspects of practical inorganic chemistry, including analysis, are covered, and the use of modern methods is well illustrated, including chromatography, spectroscopy, electroanalytical procedures, X-ray crystallography, and magneto- and thermo-chemical