

REVIEWS

Index of Geological Publications for 1966; edited by Russell Smith. P. viii, 142. Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1969 (American Association of Petroleum Geologists, \$5.00).—This little, spiral-bound volume constitutes a unique index of all 1966 publications of local geological societies affiliated or cooperating with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. Prepared by the Committee on Stratigraphic Correlations, with assistance of the organization's computer service bureau, it is the first of a proposed series of such volumes, with the 1967 edition now in preparation.

The book indexes 42 separate publications received from many sources. The listing includes guidebooks, bulletins, and transactions, but the majority are publications confined to limited distribution to their membership by the local societies. Thus a wealth of little-publicized geological information of use to researchers is now available; its principal value will be to stratigraphers, sedimentologists, paleontologists, and petroleum explorationists, but a scan of the pages shows articles indexed ranging from igneous rocks to X-ray diffraction techniques.

The index lists articles by author, title, and key-words. This latter section is a detailed index of major subject matter covered in the articles. This reviewer found the indexing system easy to learn and use in contrast to complex systems characterizing many key-word type indices. The computerized printout suffers from the narrow line spacing and tortuous print common in computer retrieval systems. One wonders if our descendants will evolve square eyeballs to cope with scientific indices as machines take over all abstracting chores.

Geoscience information specialists and just ordinary practitioners in geology need much help in staying current with the literature, and on balance this index is another important aid in achieving this objective. It is worthy of long life as an annual product, and one hopes the coverage will be extended to literature of local and regional geological societies not directly affiliated with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

WILTON N. MELHORN

Rock and Mineral Analysis; by John A. Maxwell. P. xvii, 584, num. figs. and tables. New York, London, Sydney, Toronto, 1968 (Interscience Publishers, \$24.50).

This book is an extremely well-organized compilation of the more classical methods for rock and mineral analysis. Of the 533 pages of text 494 are devoted almost entirely to wet chemical procedures; X-ray emission spectrography and atomic absorption spectrography are discussed briefly in the last two chapters. In the preface, the author points out the present need for such a reference for routine analysis in laboratories lacking instrumental facilities and for preparation of instrumental calibration standards. He also notes that emphasis has been placed on the analysis of silicates and carbonates rather than of ore minerals.