

is stated to be less complete with respect to terms than to names. The difficulty in finding a dividing line between chemistry and mineralogy caused the authors to include the latter science in a work originally intended to embrace only the former.

One point is well exemplified in this dictionary. This is the unfortunate and prevalent habit of naming minerals after places and people, without the slightest indication of chemical composition or physical properties. It is to be regretted that some form of nomenclature more akin to the usually rational and comparatively intelligible system applied to chemical substances has not been adopted for minerals.

Words current in the literature of the two sciences from the middle of the nineteenth century onwards are included, and the dictionary is sufficiently up-to-date to include names appearing in 1928. No important defects or omissions were noticed, and the work can be recommended as likely to prove a useful addition to scientific reference libraries.

V. A. E.

Photometric Chemical Analysis (Colorimetry and Nephelometry). By Prof. John H. Yoe. With Contributions to Vol. 2 by Dr. Hans Kleinmann. Vol. 2: *Nephelometry*. Pp. xvi+337. (New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1929.) 22s. 6d. net.

THE volume contains a history of the development of nephelometers, an account of the theory of nephelometry, and examples of the use of the nephelometer in inorganic and organic analysis; it has a useful bibliography and satisfactory author and subject indexes. Prof. Yoe rightly lays stress on the necessity of studying systematically every reaction producing turbidity that it is desired to use in nephelometric investigations, as to the stability of the suspension and the limits of concentration that may be employed, and of standardising each instrument with each suspension used. Some squared paper is interleaved in the volume, serving the useful purpose of supplying a convenient place for the preservation of necessary calibration curves of the nephelometer in use. A table of atomic weights later than 1925 is not included. The volume is to be welcomed as providing a comprehensive study of nephelometric methods and an outline of the technique for carrying out nephelometric research.

A. G. F.

The Custom of Couvade. By Warren R. Dawson. (Publications of the University of Manchester, No. 194: Ethnological Series, No. 4.) Pp. ix+118. (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1929.) 7s. 6d. net.

THE strange custom of couvade, which consists of various taboos for and practices by the father of a new-born baby, more particularly his 'lying-in', has attracted the attention of many writers. Mr. Warren R. Dawson has evidently studied the subject to see how it would fit in with the migration of culture theory of Elliot Smith, but he can "merely throw out the suggestion that couvade *may* originally have been part of a religious ceremonial which was afterwards invested with new and

varied significance and made a mere family concern. . . . We must, with Ploss, humbly admit that the state of our knowledge regarding the original motive of the couvade custom is expressed by a single word—*ignoramus*." At all events, the author has done good service in bringing together a very large number of references and in clearing away some of the debris that has hitherto encumbered the discussion of couvade, and he has succeeded in his object of collecting into a convenient compass the material for a reconsideration of a puzzling and interesting problem.

A Text-Book of Pulmonary Tuberculosis: for Students. By R. C. Wingfield. Pp. xvi+401. (London: Constable and Co., Ltd., 1929.) 31s. 6d. net.

THE treatment of phthisis, as Dr. Wingfield points out in his preface, has been so largely taken over by special hospitals that the medical student at a general hospital has little opportunity for studying the disease. A brief course of instruction at a special institution is essential, and to assist the student in taking full advantage of it, this text-book has been produced. It gives sufficient attention to detail without being too long and exhaustive for easy study. The subject of treatment naturally fills a large section of the book; the student and general practitioner tend too frequently to consider this a matter entirely for the specialist, and to neglect the fact that the mode of life prescribed and learned at the sanatorium has to be carried out later under the supervision of the family doctor. It is of interest to observe that treatment by gold compounds has not been so entirely abandoned as was once thought, and that sanocrysin does seem to have a limited sphere of usefulness. The book is very well illustrated by radiographs and temperature charts.

Animal Psychology for Biologists. By Dr. J. A. Bierens de Haan. Pp. 80. (London: University of London Press, Ltd., 1929.) 4s. 6d. net.

THIS little book consists of three lectures on certain features of the psychology of animals, excluding man. In the first, Dr. Bierens de Haan insists on the independence of animal psychology as a science, dissociating it from subsistence on the kindred sciences of physiology and human psychology. He defines as its aim the study of subjective phenomena in animals, from the highest to the lowest, and offers evidence that even the amoeba experiences these phenomena. The animal is discussed as a knowing subject in the second lecture and as a feeling and striving individual in the third. Dr. Bierens de Haan evidently regards mental evolution in animals as having reached a level much more approximating to man's than is generally accepted. He considers that in higher animals there can be "an implicit understanding of the connexion of causes and effects", a psychological process equivalent to a primitive form of conceptual thought in man. Whether one agrees or not with his conclusions, they are a welcome stimulus to research in the many problems in this science still awaiting solution.