

The method may be adapted to any projection, but in the tables are given the angular values for the orthographic and basal projection for twenty minerals in addition to all the cubic values. It is the obvious method to use in drawing cubic crystals. The text is well illustrated.

*The Journal of the Institute of Metals.* Vol. 42. Edited by G. Shaw Scott. Pp. xii + 846 + 48 plates. (London: The Institute of Metals, 1929.) 31s. 6d. net.

THE original papers contained in this volume were presented at the meeting of the Institute in Düsseldorf last autumn, and include several contributions from Continental metallurgists. They fall into three main groups. The first includes a general discussion on metallographic methods, as well as separate papers on dilatometry. Here will be found a useful survey of modern methods of investigation, including some of very recent development. A second group is concerned with recent progress in melting and casting non-ferrous metals, special attention being given to electric heating. The extent to which electric heating has replaced the use of direct fuel in the German copper and brass industry is very striking, and the laboratory metallurgist, accustomed to the difficulties of vacuum operations, may be surprised to find that charges of as much as four tons of metal have been successfully cast *in vacuo*, an induction furnace being used for the purpose.

The subjects of corrosion and chemical attack are represented by several papers, one of which deals interestingly with the formation of patina on copper, and another with the wastage of locomotive fire-box stays. The influence of the Non-ferrous Metals Research Association in encouraging and supporting work of scientific as well as of practical interest is conspicuous. The abstracts and bibliography occupy no less than 360 pages, and this section of the volume is, as usual, very thorough in character, and indispensable to the metallurgist.

*Applied Inorganic Analysis: with Special Reference to the Analysis of Metals, Minerals, and Rocks.* By Dr. W. F. Hillebrand and Dr. G. E. F. Lundell. Pp. xix + 929. (New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1929.) 42s. 6d. net.

THIS important work is the result of prolonged experience on the part of both authors, whose publications on analytical subjects are well known. Although attention is more especially directed to metal, mineral, and rock analysis, the book is really a general treatise on quantitative analysis, and as such will appeal to a wide circle of readers. The treatment is essentially practical, and the details necessary for successful procedure are carefully described.

References to the literature are given very fully, and a great number of critical observations and comparisons of methods add considerably to the value of the book. The treatment is not exhaustive, and the reviewer has failed to find more than one method which he has himself used with success, but the authoritative treatment of the methods selected is entitled to the high praise which the

book as a whole fully deserves. Although the price is somewhat high, the saving of time which the possession of the book will realise makes it worth the cost. Every chemical laboratory will find the book of great value.

*Anthropology of the Syrian Christians.* By Rao Bahadur L. K. Ananta Krishna Ayyar. Pp. xvii + 338 + 48 plates. (Ernakulam: Cochin Government Press, 1926.)

THE Syrian Christians of Malabar are, in their way, one of the most interesting communities in India. Originally a single community, they afterwards divided themselves into various sects in circumstances over which they had no control, each with its divergent set of social customs and religious differences. Yet all of them claim equally to be descended from, and themselves to be, true followers of the Apostle Thomas. They have on many occasions attained prominence from their numerous and interminable disputes about the possession and administration of church property, a character, however, in which they are not peculiar either in India or elsewhere.

Mr. Krishna Ayyar's investigations into the manners and customs of the Syrian Christians of Malabar, Cochin, and Travancore were originally made so long ago as 1910, and the results embodied in vol. 2 of "Cochin Tribes and Castes". Later opportunities for intensive study have enlarged the material, and the Cochin Government has now sanctioned its publication in a separate volume. Four chapters are given to the history of the Syrian Church, and the remaining thirteen are devoted to the description of manners and customs. It is interesting to note that not only are there many survivals of Hindu customs among these Christians, but also they show the same tendency to frequent fission into sects which is to be observed in the formation of castes and sub-castes by division among the Hindus.

*The Statesman's Year Book: Statistical and Historical Annual of the States of the World for the Year 1930.* Edited by Dr. M. Epstein. Sixty-seventh Annual Publication: Revised after Official Returns. Pp. xxxi + 1458. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1930.) 20s. net.

THE changes in the new issue of this familiar work of reference are in matters of detail. The political world has been relatively quiet and there are few changes of frontiers or adjustments of territory to be recorded except the acquisition by Norway of a few polar islands. Yugoslavia now appears under that official name in place of the old Serb, Croat, and Slovene State. As usual, the revision of detail has been thorough, and an immense mass of useful statistical and descriptive matter appears within a small bulk. The copious bibliographies of official reports and non-official publications have been again revised. There are two coloured maps, one showing Northern China with Manchuria and Mongolia, and the other Lithuania with the territory claimed by both that State and Poland. The usual introductory tables give world output of various commodities.