

BOOK REVIEW

PRISM AND LENS MAKING

A TEXT BOOK FOR OPTICAL GLASSWORKERS

F. TWYMAN, F. Inst. P., F.R.S., Managing Director Adam Hilger Ltd., Pp. 178+iv, Figs. 70, 14½×22 cm., cloth. Published by Adam Hilger Ltd., London, 1942. Price \$4.50. Obtainable in U.S.A. from the Jarrell-Ash Co., 165 Newbury St., Boston, Mass.

This book marks a departure from the traditional reticence of optical manufacturers to reveal their methods. It is the first thorough account to originate from a commercial source. May other manufacturers follow this praiseworthy example!

Following a short scholarly historical introduction, the elements of single lens working are taken up; the basic nature of the processes of grinding and polishing are discussed, as are also tools and materials for these operations. The production of lenses and prisms in quantity is next considered including detailed descriptions of the methods of assembling and working these in "blocks." It is here preeminently that an account from an outstanding manufacturer is of great value. Closing chapters are devoted to the testing of optical glass and of finished parts. Among the interferometers described for such testing is the well-known one invented by the author during the first world war which bears his name.

The book is a valuable contribution in a field in which literature is scant. It is primarily an account of the methods used by Hilger Ltd. It is of interest to both the beginner and the experienced optical worker. The restricted compass however precludes that it be encyclopedic in nature. The beginner needs further aid in the fundamental operations, especially in regard to the working of single surfaces by hand. And the experienced technician may with profit familiarize himself with methods of testing of which no account is here included. But for the considerable material which the book contains it is highly recommended.

CHARLES F. MEYER,
University of Michigan

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY AND CONTRIBUTORS TO THE JOURNAL

Due to the diversion of many of our contributors from teaching and research to pursuits relating either directly or indirectly to the war effort, there has been a marked decrease in the number of contributions submitted for publication. It is therefore necessary to announce a change in the issuing dates of the Journal.

After July 1 and possibly continuing for some time *The American Mineralogist* will be issued every two months instead of monthly. For the balance of 1943 there will be three issues instead of six: July-August (Nos. 7 & 8); September-October (Nos. 9 & 10); and November-December (Nos. 11 & 12).

Our members and subscribers are assured that as soon as conditions will permit we will again return to our normal policy of issuing a monthly periodical.

The first paper conservation order of the War Production Board affected only those periodicals which required more than 100 tons of paper per year. A supplementary order, recently issued, directs the publishers not affected by the first order, to limit paper consumption for 1943 to the amount used in 1942.

War Production order L-291, effective May 25, 1943, forbids the use of stitching wire in pamphlets containing twelve pages or less, including covers. Pamphlets of this size must be made up in newspaper form: unstitched. Restrictions are also placed on the number of stitching wires permitted for pamphlets containing more than twelve pages.