

culture" (for milk and butter, pork meat, feed grains, cereals, various sorts of fodder, some vegetables, poultry, Brittany holds the first rank or one of the first ranks in France — See the geographical introduction). P. 105 again, read Armor (= the sea) instead of Amor. P. 147, to draw a distinction between "Tafel-Jura" (in German) and "Plateau-Jura" (which is not correct in French) will mislead the reader, since both terms have the same meaning (i.e. "Jura tabulaire" or "Plateaux du Jura" in French).

Certainly some people will not agree with the order used in the index for compounds words made with "Saint-" (or "Sainte-"). For example, if the reader is looking for Saint-Etienne, he will have to check at Etienne and not at Saint.

Pierre BIAYS, Lille

SCHAMP, H.: Ägypten. Das Alte Kulturland am Nil auf dem Weg in die Zukunft. 58 photos, 54 tabs., 12 maps, 727 pp. Tübingen, H. Erdmann Verlag 1977.

This attractive and versatile volume forms No. 9 of the Erdmann Ländermonographien. Topics include the basic geography of Egypt, history, art and civilization, society, the political framework, and the economy. The 34 chapters were written by 18 eminent German and Egyptian scholars and authors. H. Schamp, who has specialized in Egyptian problems for several decades, prepared the substantial sections dealing with physical and human geography; these sections provide a valuable compendium of statistical and often cartographic material that is generally difficult to obtain. The sections on history and civilization span 5000 years of Egyptian culture and include some unusual and fascinating items, e.g. essays or sections on Medieval trade (U. Haarmann), Islamic architecture (M. Meinecke), Arabic literature (M. Maher), and historical musicology (J. Trautmann). The chapters on state institutions, economy, and communications are unnecessarily brief and often uninformative, with an exasperating range of lacunae in current information, including the nature of post-High Dam irrigation and the ecological impacts of dam impoundment on declining soil-nitrate levels, rapidly expanding salinization, and catastrophic impacts on delta, and especially offshore fisheries. A topical bibliography completes the book.

One of the basic purposes of the Erdmann monographs is to serve as reference for businessmen, tourists, and other travellers. In this context Ägypten

serves its purpose admirably. However, this reviewer regrets that a volume of such promise does not attempt to be more than descriptive and that, above all, the truly problematic aspects of contemporary Egyptian economy and society are effectively sidestepped.

Karl W. BUTZER, Chicago

ALEXANDERSSON, G. and KLEVEBRING, B.-S.: WORLD RESOURCES. Energy, Metals, Minerals, Studies in Economic and Political Geography. Berlin, Walter de Gruyter 1978. 248 pp. Bibliogr. Index. Geo Spectrum. DM 36,—.

As the title implies, this book deals with metals and also nonmetallic minerals, and has, in addition, some smaller passages on energy, the largest of which is on electric energy.

The book diligently treats the reserves and resources of the various metals and other minerals. The main stress is, however, laid on production and development of production in the course of the latest generation. The largest chapter in the book deals with fossil fuels, i.e. coal, oil and natural gas, and the largest passages treat reserves and production of oil and natural gas. Furthermore, there is a thorough description of reserves and production of pitcoal and lignite. The book proceeds with an account of nuclear power and water power. Under the chapter on ores a particularly detailed account is given of iron ore, and in connection to this an exposition is given of reserves and production of the eleven most important alloy metals. In addition, base metals like copper, tin, zinc, lead and mercury are treated, and under the passage on precious metals there is a brief account of the deposits and production of gold, silver and platinum. Under the heading of light metals a description is given of reserves and production development of aluminium, magnesium, and titanium. Then follows a chapter on nonmetallic minerals like stone, cement, asbestos, clay, and sand and gravel. In connection to this a brief account is given of the glass industry and the various glass types, and of porcelain, graphite, and sulfur. Under the heading of fertilizers there are special passages on nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, and calcium. Finally, there is a special chapter on abrasives comprising industrial diamonds, corundum, emery etc. The last chapter deals with mineral raw materials in international trade, and the political geographical problems attached to this.

The mode of exposition in this book is concise, but clear, and it reads easily. In conclusion, one must say that it is probably one of the best presentations in international literature of resources and production of minerals. Finally, it should be singled out that the book has a great many semi-logarithmic curves showing production development of the various ores and minerals, and the production development of the most important countries. Moreover, there is a number of maps showing the geographical distribution of production for many of the most important ores etc.

Ultimately, it should be mentioned that the book has a separate part with notes and a short bibliography in addition to a passage on statistical sources. It is concluded by an index comprising both the individual topics and the geographical names of localities that are mentioned in the book. If one were to pass strictures on one particular point, it must be the circumstance that the many world maps of production by countries that include an inset map of Europe showing production by countries do not at the same time indicate the total European production.

J. HUMLUM, Århus

GIERLOFF-EMDEN, H.-G.: Orbital Remote Sensing of Coastal and Offshore Environments. 176 pp., Walter de Gruyter, Berlin 1977. DM 90,—

The publication of this interpretation manual continues the excellent tradition of the author in researching both coastal environments and the use of aerial and space imagery in the earth sciences (Luftbild und Küstengeographie am Beispiel der deutschen Nordseeküste, 1961, and Weltraumbilder, die dritte Entdeckung der Erde, 1974). The introductory section of some 44 pages is not organized conventionally, and the variable handling of individual topics may bother some readers. However, this portion of the text does contain much valuable and useful information, including reviews of the development of orbital remote sensing, detection and interpretation of color on orbital imagery, aspects of color of the sea, U.S. space missions returning earth imagery, lagoons and estuaries as factors of coastal plains, and much more.

The strength of the book lies in the detailed interpretations of individual imagery. Each attempts to analyze different specific problems, i.e., atmospheric-biological phenomena and the bottom as a boundary layer of a very flat lagoon;