other travellers. In this context Ägypten
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 Kultur-
land am Nil auf dem Weg in die Zukunft.

This attractive and versatile volume forms
No. 9 of the Erdmann Ländernonographien.
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.
theses or sections on Medieval trade (U.
Haarmann), Islamic architecture (M. Meine-
cecke), 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 exasper-
ating range of lacunae in current infor-
mation, including the nature of post-
High Dam irrigation and the ecological
impacts of dam impoundment on declining
soil-nitrate levels, rapidly expanding sa-
linization, 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 KLEVE-
BRING, B.S.: WORLD RESOURCES.
Energy, Metals, Minerals, Studies In
Economic and Political Geography. Berlin,
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
petroleum and lignite. The book proceeds
with an account of nuclear power and water
power. Under the chapter on ores a parti-
cularly detailed account is given of iron
ore, and in connection to this an expo-
sition 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 pla-
tinum. Under the heading of light metals
a description is given of reserves and pro-
duction development of aluminium, mag-
nesium, 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 glas industry and the various
glas 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 im-
portant 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

GIERLLOFF-EMDEN, H.-G.: Orbital Remote
Sensing of Coastal and Offshore Environ-
ments. 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 (Luft-
bild 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 conven-
tionally, and the variable handling of in-
dividual topics may bother some readers.
However, this portion of the text does
contain much valuable and useful infor-
mation, including reviews of the deve-
lopment of orbital remote sensing, detec-
tion and interpretation of color on orbital
imagery, aspects of color of the sea, U.S.
space missions returning earth imagery,
breaks 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;