ton University have made a foremost contribution, has provided a large reservoir of new information and led to many new or revised interpretations.

The general concepts and various theoretical and empirical relationships pertaining to dielectric constant, loss, and dipole moment are discussed in the first two chapters. Although this treatment is necessarily brief and rather noncritical. the reader will find it well documented with references to the original literature and to other recent textbooks. The next four chapters are devoted to a consideration and interpretation of data on the dielectric constant of and dielectric loss in a variety of liquid and solid systems that represent varied types of behavior. The chapter on solids, for example, contains a discussion of polar and nonpolar crystalline solids, ionic crystals, glasses, polymers, ferroelectrics, and electrets. Following a short chapter on methods of measuring dielectric constant and loss are six chapters on dipole moments and their relationship to molecular structure. The various classes of inorganic, organic, and organometallic compounds are treated in systematic fashion. Two concluding chapters deal with amino acids and proteins and with atomic and electronic polarization.

The book appears to be well organized, adequately indexed, and relatively free from typographical errors. It can be recommended for those who are interested in a lucid account of the application of dielectrics to the problems of structural chemistry. Its reference value to the student and research worker alike is considerably enhanced by the inclusion of many figures and tables and by nearly 1500 literature citations.

A. A. MARYOTT National Bureau of Standards

Arctic Research. The current status of research and some immediate problems in the North American Arctic and Subarctic. Spec. Publ. No. 2 of The Arctic Institute of North America (reprinted from *Arctic*, vol. 7, Nos. 3 and 4, pages 113–366). Diana Rowley, Ed. Arctic Institute of North America, Montreal, Canada, 1955. 261 pp. Illus, \$3.50; members, \$3.

This is a collection of research papers in the physical, biological, and social sciences about the arctic and subarctic of North America. The principal topics covered in the physical sciences are meteorology, geology and geomorphology, glaciology, permafrost, geophysical research and exploration, the ionosphere, geodetic investigations, oceanography, tidal data, and sea ice; topics in the biological sciences are limnology, marine ecology, botany, soil resources and agriculture, wildlife research, invertebrate zoology, entomology, and biological research; topics in the social sciences are archeological research, human ecology, human geographic research, settlement and transportation, and cold acclimatization in the Eskimo. All articles have bibliographies; lists of field and library projects sponsored by the Arctic Institute are included. There is an index and a folding map inside the back cover.

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