graphs," edited by A. Moucher and G. Rehwald (Umschau, Frankfurt am Main, Germany), should have been called to the attention of readers. The final chapter, "Application of ore microscopy," is primarily devoted to the application of ore microscopy to ore beneficiation. This discussion should be better balanced, possibly by added emphasis on the relationships between minerals as they affect ore genesis.

On page 96 the description concerning measurements of reflectivity cannot be followed in Fig. 5.3. I noted a few other minor editorial errors, but the book is almost free of this distraction.

Both Cameron and the publishers are to be congratulated on this excellent book.

CHARLES F. PARK, JR.
School of Mineral Sciences,
Stanford University

Sand, Rock, and Habitancy

Desert Wildlife. Edmund C. Jaeger. Stanford University Press, Stanford, Calif. (a revision of *Our Desert Neighbors*), 1961. x + 308 pp. Illus. $5.95.

This series of essays offers the general reader a wonderful insight into the life and habits of several of the dwellers of the desert of the southwestern part of the United States and northwestern Mexico. Jaeger, who is known for his series of books concerning various aspects of the desert, has a wonderful ability to transform personal observations and experiences into extremely interesting reading. The book is illustrated by a series of excellent photographs and many interesting line drawings. It is unfortunate, however, that neither the author nor the editors bothered to check even the readily available standard references concerning the taxonomy and morphology of the animals discussed. It is doubly unfortunate that some of the worst offenses are handled as footnotes in a manner which suggests documentation of current thought concerning the taxonomy of the animal concerned.

Most mammalogists will disagree with concepts such as the following: that there are "two desert species of coyote" in southern California (page 19); that "the peccaries of the New World [are] representatives of the Old World pigs" (page 42); that the currently recognized generic name of the peccaries is *Dicotyles* (page 143)—to mention a few. The essay on bats (pages 124 to 129) has several bits of misinformation—not all flying foxes are large; not all long-nosed bats are Old World fruit bats; there are two species of long-nosed bats, occurring in the deserts of the southwestern United States, which feed on the nectar and pollen of desert agaves and saguaros.

E. LENDELL COCKRUM
Department of Zoology,
University of Arizona, Tucson

German Zoological Society

Fortschritte der Zoologie. vol. 13. Hans Bauer, Ed. Fischer, Stuttgart, Germany, 1961. xii + 397 pp. Illus. DM. 78.

This "progress report," sponsored by the German Zoological Society, deals with selected fields in zoology, the latter used in its broadest definition. Since one volume is published each year, coverage of the whole of zoology can occur only over many years. Consequently, the individual articles report progress made during a variable number of years, as evidenced by the bibliographies. However, as a rule the more important papers of the world literature during the last 5 years have been utilized.

Like any book written by a number of contributors, not all chapters are equally readable. But all the compilations are well done, and one has the impression that the really relevant material has been included. All the contributors avoided the common pitfall of such review-reports, that of abstracting a lot of recent literature and then of enumerating in a boring, unimaginative fashion, good only as a source of references. In all chapters, the material is fused into interesting, concise, and comprehensive representations. Since space does not permit detailed evaluation of each chapter, it should be pointed out that this book deserves the attention of, and indeed should be available to, any teacher of advanced zoology or of comparative physiology.

The contributors and the fields covered are: E. Reisinger (Graz), morphology of coelenterates, and acoelomatic and pseudo-coelomatic worms; H. Adam (Vienna), microscopical anatomy of the nervous system of vertebrates; L. Wiese (Tübingen), the biochemical basis of fertilization (the so-called gamons); D. Burkhard (Munich), general physiology of sensation and electrophysiology of receptors; C. Hoffmann (Munich), comparative physiology of temperature sensation and of chemical sensation; E. Autrum (Munich), physiology of vision; W. Wickler (Seewiesen), ecology and ontogeny of behavior, and F. Mainx (Vienna), population genetics.

Unfortunately, the book contains neither an alphabetical index of authors nor a subject index.

ERNST FISCHER
Department of Physiology,
Medical College of Virginia, Richmond

Sound, Factual Treatment

Electronics in Everyday Things. William C. Vergara. Harper, New York, 1961. 235 pp. Illus. $3.95.

This is a sound, educational book for a young man with a real interest in electricity. It has sections on the elementary theory of electricity and on the applications implied by the title. It is simple and straightforward; it is correct in its statements.

The book seems to be more suitable for the student with a real interest in electricity than for one who is looking for entertaining reading. There is something reminiscent of a good textbook, and of course a serious-minded student of high school age reads a well-written textbook with genuine interest, an interest that is more rare in later years. This is the kind of reader for whom the book is recommended.

Perhaps the reader will not be troubled by the absence of chapters, with the customary chapter headings, and a table of contents, as I was; but it seems to me that the organization of a book can be indicated by a table of contents, a need that this book's good index does not serve.

I lent the book to a high school senior with a particular interest in electronics. Since then I have heard nothing of either boy or book. Perhaps he was less serious-minded than I thought, or perhaps he also found the book more instructive than entertaining.

H. H. SKILLING
Department of Electrical Engineering,
Stanford University