job than I could. There are some points that I would have discussed, however, which Cadle apparently considered beyond the scope of his book, for he mentions them only very briefly, if at all. These include loess, the movement of soils by the dust storms of the Great Plains, the dry fogs of southeastern Russian and western China, the rains of "blood" recorded from the present back to the Roman period or earlier, and the possible connection between meteoritic dust and rainfall.

The only technical errors I detected were two resulting from new information published too late for inclusion in this book. I regard the book as a welcome and valuable addition to my library.

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Potential-pH Diagrams

The potential-pH diagram, originated by Marcel Pourbaix in his doctoral dissertation, portrays graphically the conditions under which oxidationreduction reactions of an element and its compounds are possible or impossible in aqueous systems at 25°C. In the Atlas of Electrochemical Equilibria in Aqueous Solutions [James A. Franklin, Transl. Centre Belge d' Etude de la Corrosion (CEBELCOR), Brussels; Pergamon, New York, 1966. 644 pp., illus. \$36] Pourbaix and 21 other contributors have provided such diagrams for 91 elements. Introductory chapters have outstanding clarity, and the book is relatively free of errors.

The term "atlas" is apt. If the periodic table of the elements is a globe marking outlines of the chemical continents, a series of potential-pH diagrams becomes a relief map showing great detail. Though not intended primarily as a pedagogical tool, the approach certainly deserves an appearance in chemistry textbooks. The Atlas is intended as a working reference for the electrochemist, corrosion engineer, and others. Americans in these categories have the work available in English translation for the first time. They will soon find it practically indispensable.

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New Books

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Atom and Organism: A New Approach to Theoretical Biology. Walter M. Elsasser. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, N.J., 1966. 153 pp. \$4.50.

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