

esterases, and Harris gives a similar summary for a number of dehydrogenases that have sulfhydryl groups at the active site. It has recently been shown that a number of enzymes react with their substrates or coenzymes to form imines, which can be reduced with borohydride to stable derivatives of lysine; these are ably discussed by Fischer. Malmström and his co-workers give a short summary of the properties, including the recently discovered esterase activity, of carbonic anhydrase and describe some promising, but not yet very informative, x-ray work on a number of derivatives of this enzyme. Antonini gives a brief but lucid exposition of the important work of the Rome group on the Bohr effect of hemoglobin. In the remaining three papers, Guidotti, Huehns and Shooter, and Briehl describe the dissociation of hemoglobin into subunits and its relationship to the oxygen dissociation curve of hemoglobin.

The short communications, and the longer ones, which present experimental data from a particular laboratory in detail are often interesting, but the desirability of including such material in a volume of this kind is questionable. Most of this material has already been published, or will be published, in journals. Any new material not pub-

lished in normal channels is likely to be missed by those who may follow the journals conscientiously, but do not happen to read this volume. Furthermore, such material is not subjected to the same standards of criticism by referees as that published in journals. A considerable fraction of the book is devoted to descriptions of x-ray analyses of enzymes at resolutions that are not sufficient to provide much significant information, and these reports are already somewhat dated after the detailed report on the x-ray structural analysis of lysozyme that Phillips presented to the Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology this spring.

The book is useful in that it brings together a considerable amount of material on the limited number of topics covered and provides a representative cross section of our present state of knowledge in enzymology and certain aspects of protein structure. It is relatively free of the more speculative electron-pushing often found in volumes of this kind, and perhaps it is this that emphasizes to the reader how little we really understand about the way enzymes catalyze chemical reactions.

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## Physics: On the Scope of Cosmic Ray Physics

**Cosmic Ray Physics.** A. E. Sandström. North-Holland, Amsterdam; Interscience (Wiley), New York, 1965. x + 421 pp. Illus. \$15.

So wide a range of topics is now included under the heading "cosmic ray" that it is becoming increasingly more difficult for any single author to effect a uniform coverage within a single volume of reasonable proportions. It is also increasingly more difficult to review such a book, and I have therefore felt it necessary to draw on expert advice in some areas for which I would not claim firsthand experience and familiarity with the most recent literature. That Sandström has not achieved his objective of presenting a "survey of cosmic ray physics . . . that will serve as an introduction . . . also as a source of information" is therefore not surprising; what is disappointing is the extent of his failure.

The range of topics covered in this

book and the amounts of space devoted to them do not reflect, I think, their relative importance in modern cosmic ray physics; specifically, to give only six pages to the primary charge spectrum, not even three to the primary energy spectrum, and no serious discussion at all to the relation between cosmic rays and radio astronomy, is to misjudge seriously their importance today.

If my comments were to be restricted to matters of balance, this review would constitute perhaps the weighing of one subjective set of values against another. Unfortunately, far more serious objections must be raised. In many areas, the text is worthless as a modern reference document. Major original contributions and review articles simply are not mentioned; among those omitted are the McDonald and Webber papers on primary protons and  $\alpha$ -particles and their modulation through the solar cycle; papers

by Earl and by Meyer reporting the discovery of primary electrons; review articles by Morrison [in the *Handbuch der Physik* (Springer, Berlin, 1961), vol. 46, No. 1, p. 1] and by Waddington (1960); and the major publication by the group at the Naval Research Laboratory, dealing with the primary charge spectrum (1961). There are other omissions. There is no mention of primary electrons, x-rays, or  $\gamma$ -rays. McIlwain's L-parameter gets no mention in the chapter on geomagnetic effects and barely a definition in the out-dated chapter on trapped radiations; none of the modern data from Massachusetts Institute of Technology gets into chapter 9, on air showers; there is inadequate discussion of the Minnesota and NASA work on the energy spectra of solar flare particles, except "very little is known concerning the rigidity spectrum" (p. 285) and a bare reference to the NASA solar proton manual; there is no mention of the NASA work on heavy nuclei observed during flares. In general, references for 1962 and 1963 are conspicuous by their paucity.

Those areas with which the author has greatest personal acquaintance, such as counter optics and time variations, are the most competently presented, but even in these the treatment is often incomplete. There is also some confusion in places, such as Table 2.1, which lists fluxes of L-nuclei but fails to state that some of these were obtained at northern latitudes, others much further south; there is considerable confusion in pages 23 through 29 where various meson effects are discussed, and especially on page 29 where the treatment of relativistic time dilation is at least original, if wrong.

These shortcomings are not trivial. They have come to light after detailed review by active research workers. What, in contrast, would happen to some other reader who, knowing nothing of cosmic rays, consults this book? Depending on the section he reads, he might well come away with an incomplete or out-of-date view, or he might be quite misinformed. I fail to see why this should be the case, and still less why competent reviewing and editing should not have had a more noticeable effect. How can this book be recommended?

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