newly created Chair of Cloud Physics in the University of London. His larger text (*The physics of clouds*, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1957) epitomizes the results of the decade of active research to which his elegant experimental techniques have contributed so much, as those who know his papers will acknowledge.

In this concise introduction to the subject we begin with a summary of cloud forms and features. Nuclei of cloud condensation and growth of cloud droplets will attract many who want a summary of progress in recent years. Glaciologists will find the two chapters on the germination and growth of snow crystals, and on snow, rain and hail as precipitation especially interesting, although the emphasis is on events in the atmosphere. Nakaya’s work on crystal growth in this field has been extended by Mason and Hallett. Chapters follow on rainmaking experiments and on the electrification of thunderclouds.

Glaciologists who want a compact, up-to-date and readable account can be strongly recommended to this book. Physicists will welcome the descriptions of experimental techniques. The only criticism the reviewer would make is that readers will find it difficult to pick up many of the references, e.g. to Bowen’s work in Australia or “the work of the Cambridge school” (p. 118) as there is no full bibliography or list of papers, although a few sources are named in footnotes and captions. Otherwise, an excellent and delightfully compact account.

GORDON MANLEY


The five years that have passed since the appearance of the first edition of this book (reviewed in the *Journal of Glaciology*, Vol. 3, No. 25, 1959, p. 432–34) have seen a considerable increase in the effort devoted to geophysical research, and this is reflected in an increase in its size from 280 to 362 pages, with a more than proportionate increase in the number of diagrams. The new material, as might be expected, comes mainly from the rapidly expanding field of marine geophysics, although references to all parts of the literature have been brought up to date. As with the first edition, the bibliography includes many papers by Russian and German authors which may be unfamiliar to English-speaking readers, and a book of this kind is all the more valuable for drawing attention to them. This exoticism, however, sometimes leads to the more standard work being given barely adequate treatment (the reviewer finds this true of the section on palaeomagnetism, and specialists in other fields might well make similar complaints) or even to the inclusion (for example, on p. 268) of hypotheses of marginal importance apparently for no other reason than to give the author the pleasure of demolishing them. He would presumably argue that ideas which offend physical laws must be publicly demolished if they are not to be perpetuated, and that those which offend only existing geophysical data should at least be noted in a book of this kind so that they may be reconsidered if the balance of the evidence is changed as further research is carried out.

The new edition has enhanced the value of the book as a review of the subject and as a source of further information. It is to be hoped that Dr. Scheidegger is already collecting material for the third edition that will surely be necessary within the next few years.

R. F. KING
