

NEW PUBLICATION

It is announced to the readers of *Geophysica* that a continuation of the former meteorological journal *Beiträge zur Physik der Freien Atmosphäre*, founded by R. Assmann and H. Hergesell, has now reappeared in the form of *Beiträge zur Physik der Atmosphäre*.

The first issue of the first volume (Band 29, Heft 1) has been published. The new Editing Committee consists of W. Georgii and H. Koschmieder with collaboration of H. Flohn, B. Haurwitz and J. Van Mieghem, the Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft M.B.H., Frankfurt am Main, as the publishers. These names are a guarantee of high editorial standards. It has been stated that one volume (consisting of four numbers) per year will be published. The price is DM 55:— per volume. The editorial board will welcome contributions from the whole field of meteorology and the papers are accepted in English, French or German with a summary in all these three languages.

We wish the very best success to the editors of *Beiträge zur Physik der Atmosphäre* in their effort.

L. A. V.

BOOK REVIEW

P. BEELITZ: Radiosonden. 46 Figures, 126 pages. VEB Verlag Technik, Berlin 1954.

During and after the World War II the methods of aerological observations have been improved considerably. New types of instruments have been developed, higher altitudes are reached and the network of stations has penetrated all over the world. The instruments in use for the present have also been compared twice on an international base. Nevertheless, no summary of this special field of instrumental meteorology in a book form has appeared until the one now under discussion. Therefore this book must be considered as a very welcome contribution among handbooks of meteorological instruments.

At the beginning of the book a short review on the progress of observational methods in aerology is given. In chapter two the methods most commonly applied in measurement of temperature, humidity and pressure are discussed. Different types of thermometers, liquid-in-glass or -metal thermometers, bimetal thermometers, resistance thermometers, are described in more details. The same holds for humidity measurements, where psychrometers, hair hygrometers, dew-point and electrical methods are treated. As to the measurement of pressure mercury barometers, elastic barometers, hypsometers, gas kinematic and electric methods are described. The possible errors and the sensitivity of measuring elements are thoroughly discussed in all cases mentioned above.

The next chapter is dealing with methods for measurement of upper winds, both optically and electrically. An included statistics on the results of optical upper-wind observations (in Deutsche Demokratische Republik) yields a rather interesting view of limitations of the method in question. Some different types of wind sondes are presented, both with and without range finding. A short description of the radar method is also given.

In chapter three the following radiosondes are discussed: Moltchanoff and Graw-Sprenger, representing code-type radiosondes; Bureau and Lang as representatives for time-interval radiosondes and Väisälä and Diamond, representing variable-frequency radiosondes. Contribution of more recent time, rocket radiosondes, are also described. On the

other hand, modern designs like parachute radiosondes to be launched from an aircraft and wire sondes have been left out of scope of the book.

The last chapters are finally dealing with power supplies, balloons, calibration, ground equipment, taking of base-line values and evaluation and plotting of recordings, Lang radiosonde as an example.

Beelitz deserves credit for his effort to present a handbook for men who have something with aerological instruments to do.

L. A. V.