

energy appears in a chapter concerned with statics, as do the concepts of work and potential energy. The discussion of the motion of a particle in a central field occurs very late (Chap. 10 of a 15-chapter book), so that the intimate relationship of the concepts of torque and angular momentum to this material is somewhat hidden.

A few minor points might be mentioned, such as the labeling of the first chapter as "Fundamental principles." In the discussion of the motion of a rigid body in a plane, it is gratifying to find the proper warning concerning the indiscriminate application of the torque-angular momentum relationship about an instantaneous axis, a point unfortunately omitted in most elementary and intermediate treatments of the subject. However, at this point it is curious to read about "accelerations acting on  $P$ ," where  $P$  refers to a point through which the instantaneous axis passes. An amplification of this particular section would be welcome, as would a similar amplification of the very brief treatment of motions involving variable mass and of nonlinear oscillations.

On the whole, this book appears, to a physicist, to be a mixture of theoretical applied mechanics and theoretical physics. Perhaps this is necessary for the proper education of a major in engineering physics, but it limits the value of the book as a textbook for students majoring in pure physics.

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***The Application of Results of Research.*** Vera Connell, Ed. In collaboration with the British Commonwealth Scientific Offices. Academic Press, New York; Butterworths, London, 1954. vii + 212 pp. \$5.

This book is the result of a report presented to the British Commonwealth Scientific Conference that was held in Australia in 1952. It deals with the basic problem of how to translate the results of scientific research into practice.

For most readers, the meat of the work is probably in the five short chapters, which occupy only one-fifth of the book. These chapters give brief evaluations of the various methods that are used to obtain the rapid dissemination and application of research findings, and some attention is given to the obstacles to the use of scientific information. Unfortunately, some topics are treated in such a sketchy fashion that no new ideas are communicated.

For other readers, however, the real meat may well be the nine appendixes that make up the balance of the book. Eight of these are reports on research activities and practical applications in the various Commonwealth areas. There are, for example, brief summaries of the activities of the Rubber Research Institute and the Tea Research Institute in Ceylon, of the Fisheries Research Board in Canada, and of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in South Africa. The final appendix, incidentally, is en-

titled "Some novel methods employed in the U.S.A." Here the methods of research organization and implementation that are used by three of our agencies are summarized, with the Tennessee Valley Authority in the stellar role.

Although this book is somewhat brief and its scope is limited—in that it concentrates on government-sponsored research and its application in a few fields, namely, industry, agriculture, and health—it is a welcome addition to the literature that concerns itself with the uses of scientific knowledge.

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***Psychological Testing.*** Anne Anastasi. Macmillan, New York, 1954. xiii + 682 pp. Illus. \$6.75.

In the 50 years since Binet and Simon produced the first practical psychological test, the development and use of new tests has increased at a phenomenal pace. Theory and practice have proceeded, occasionally apace, more often alternatively, but both have made great strides. In such a rapidly developing field, it is difficult for the practitioner to retain his perspective and for the student to acquire understanding and skill in the use of tests. Anastasi has contributed a well-written work intended to meet the needs of the beginning student and the practicing psychologist, the business executive, the psychiatrist, and the educator. It will be particularly welcomed by those already familiar with testing and a stimulating and challenging, but rather difficult, introduction for students.

The material is presented in four major sections: "Principles of psychological testing," "General classification tests," "The differential testing of abilities," and "The measurement of personality characteristics." Especially welcome is the treatment of materials so far omitted from most introductory textbooks, materials such as Cronbach's formulation of the reliability problem and the materials on factor analysis. Anastasi's well-deserved reputation for sound scholarship should be enhanced, an especially noteworthy achievement in the light of the book's introductory nature.

In the preface, Anastasi sets her task as follows:

The primary objectives . . . are to provide an introduction to the principles of psychological testing and to acquaint the reader with the major types of tests in current use.

In general, she has succeeded quite well. The first section on principles will serve as a vantage point from which the student can survey and evaluate the later descriptions of the many kinds of tests available.

There are two major difficulties that may make the book rather difficult as a text. In the first place, Anastasi has tried to write a book that assumes no previous training in statistics. She attempts throughout to weave in discussions of statistical concepts as