Also of interest are the sections on electron spin and the Dirac equation where many manipulations of the Pauli and Dirac operators are considered in detail.

One cannot be too critical of the selection of subject matter in a book of this length, but the applications of the theory are somewhat overly limited to basic elementary problems such as the hydrogen atom, harmonic oscillator, and square-well potential. Approximation methods, particularly time-dependent perturbation theory, are too summarily dealt with, and certainly applications to scattering or radiation theory, for example, would help to impress one with the power of quantum mechanics.

This book will probably be of more value to the physicist who wants to go a little deeper into the mathematical background of quantum mechanics than to the mathematician who wants to learn some of the physics. Clarity and readability, however, make it a welcome addition to any library.

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Measure of a Man

Social Research to Test Ideas. Selected writings of Samuel A. Stouffer. Free Press (Macmillan), New York, 1962. xxxi + 314 pp. $8.50.

Sam Stouffer was, by common agreement, the dean, chief exemplar, and advocate of modern, quantitative social research. This book, a collection of his papers which he selected and organized shortly before his death in 1960, will come to his many students, associates, and friends as a poignant reminder of their loss. As Paul Lazarsfeld observes in his introduction, "His academic life coincided with the development of empirical social research in the United States. . . . The present set of papers is, therefore, not only the record of a man's work: it symbolizes the growth of a science."

A sociologist amply honored by his discipline, Stouffer cared little for disciplinary boundaries. Not only was he a founding father of modern survey analysis, but—see in this volume his theory of "intervening opportunities" in population mobility—he also helped

to establish the fruitfulness of formal mathematical models in the behavioral sciences. Scornful of social theory in the grand tradition, he played a leading part in shifting the emphasis toward modest, limited theories tightly linked to empirical research. In this vein, the present volume extracts from *The American Soldier* his treatment of "relative deprivation," and reprints his influential papers testing a formulation of role conflict. It samples his continuing substantive interests in demographic analysis and in the effects of the mass media, and his methodological contributions and programmatic essays.

Yet, in sum, the papers cannot give the full measure of the man and his contribution to a developing social science. Sam Stouffer was at his best close to the data—running IBM cards through the counter-sorter, revising his tactics and concepts as the results emerged—in hot pursuit of a problem to its lair. The results were substantial, but he was properly modest about them—as, indeed, he was about the claims of social science generally. More important was a contribution that is more implicit in the papers of this collection: his contribution to the shaping of a style of enquiry in the main stream of American social research. The contemporary student can still learn much from the work of this master of the art of making social data speak articulately and unambiguously.

Lazarsfeld's introductory essay increases the value of the book for graduate teaching in sociology and social psychology by making explicit how the various papers reflect developments in the forming of Stouffer's characteristic approach.

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For Prospectors

The Rock-hunter's Range Guide. Jay Ellis Ransom. Harper, New York, 1962. x + 213 pp. Illus. $4.95.

Part 1 presents a wealth of detailed information which the sophisticated rock-hunter should know and which the neophyte must learn. The introduction, on the prehistory and history of "rock" collecting, seems too brief,

and this part might well be expanded into a book. The chapters that follow contain a condensed version of fundamental materials commonly found in beginning geology texts. Many additional sources for information are given. An extensive bibliography and lists of museums and libraries are included. The illustrations are few, but they have been carefully selected for their informational content. Colored plates of minerals which might "sell" a book but which have little practical value are not used.

Somewhat reminiscent of Dana's old *System of Mineralogy* is part 2, which lists important collecting localities, preceded by a description of the salient features of the geology of each state. The detailed directions for finding principal outcrops will be most helpful to peripatetics with their trailers.

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Programmers and Computers

Programming for Digital Computers. John F. Davison. Gordon and Breach, New York, 1961. xi + 175 pp. Illus. $6.

Davison's book is principally concerned with the programming aspects of digital computers. It gives an overall view of the programmer's role, in the context of the whole subject of digital computers, and describes the programmer's task and how he goes about doing it. But it is not a textbook for training programmers, and it requires no mathematical background.

Following a brief description of digital computers in chapter 1, the role of the programmer is described in the second chapter. Operations that the computer can perform are discussed in a manner that is designed to indicate some of the machine commands available to programmers. The programmer's part in the overall task of solving a problem with a digital computer is explained in chapter 3. The experienced programmer will recognize many of the things he has been doing, although he may never have tried to specify where his responsibility begins and ends. The inexperienced reader may find the discussion somewhat vague and general, and he may not get a true