sary indignity. Publishers should show a little more consideration for the optically infirm.

Criticisms over, the question remains whether these volumes meet the criteria posed at the beginning of this review. Emphatically, yes. The research worker, teacher, or graduate student has readily available over 4600 references on various aspects of the physiology of molluscs. Most of the authors have enlarged on their own views, and their speculations are not only stimulating but have heuristic value. Both volumes contain extensive indexes (subject, author, and systematic) which allow the reader to get around in the text easily. *Physiology of Mollusca* is an indispensable addition to the growing list of group-oriented treatises.

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Plasmas and Magnetic Fields

Reviews of Plasma Physics. Vol. 2. M. A. LEONTOVICH, Ed. Translated from the Russian edition (Moscow, 1963) by Herbert Lashinsky. Consultants Bureau, New York, 1966. 305 pp., illus. $12.50.

This book is the second in a series of volumes setting forth the status, as seen by our Soviet colleagues, of theoretical plasma physics. The four articles it includes are concerned with the problem of utilizing a magnetic field to contain a plasma, and are guided by the objective of achieving a controlled thermonuclear reaction.

The first, and longest, article was written by A. I. Morozov and L. S. Solov'ev and is devoted to the structure of magnetic fields. Since plasma tends to stream rapidly along magnetic lines of force, it is desirable to know where the lines go. Can they be confined within a given volume or within a thin shell? This is a problem of considerable subtlety and complexity which has not been answered completely. The current status is rather well presented in this article, along with more mundane material on the theoretical construction of particular magnetic field configurations.

The next two articles, by V. D. Shafranov and B. B. Kadomtsev respectively, discuss equilibrium and stability and are based on the model in which the plasma is approximated by its macroscopic pressure and velocity. The article on equilibrium is quite complete. The other gives an excellent description of the theory but does not exploit that power to treat complex geometries which is its chief reason for existence. Also, this article seems more dated than the others.

The last article was written by the same authors as the first. It deals with the behavior of individual charged particles in complex magnetic and electric fields. Corrections to simple streaming along field lines are treated adequately but in less detail than is available elsewhere. Perhaps this article was included here because the problem of finding confined trajectories is analogous to that of finding contained magnetic field lines.

The overall quality of the volumes in this series is quite high. Any specialist in the field will find he needs access to a copy of this one. Others will be mainly interested in the section (6) of the first article that deals with the confinement of magnetic lines of force.

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