of astronomers will cause no dismay either to them or to the knowing reader. This is a splendid book for the general reader and also the specialist, and in the author's words portrays "the slow strengthening of Man's intellectual grasp on the Universe in which he lives, the philosophical implications of the main discoveries".

Acoustical Engineering. By Harry F. Olson. 718 pp. D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., Princeton, N. J., 1957. $13.50. *Reviewed by Robert T. Beyer, Brown University.*

To review an edition of any book of higher order than the first presents its special problems, especially when the book has been altered mainly by the addition of sections of new material, rather than by a complete revision. All the good points have already been praised, and the bad points have been damned, and the reviewer is tempted to limit his comments to the additional material, rather than to the work as a whole.

While the present volume does not bear the caption of a third edition, it is in fact, as pointed out by the author in the preface, the expanded follow-up of *Elements of Acoustical Engineering* which Dr. Olson published in 1940 and 1947, and which has been a standard work on the subject since it first appeared.

The contributions of Dr. Olson to the field of acoustical engineering have given him a vantage point from which to survey the field, and that he has done. However, the area of his contributions is also reflected in the choice of subject matter. One half the book is devoted to microphones, loudspeakers, and other airborne transducers, and to testing procedures involving them. In this field, the wealth of subject matter, sectional views of instruments, graphs, and equivalent circuits, make the book an invaluable tool.

The same is true for the sections on sound recording and reproduction, and on the use of dynamical analogies.

On the other hand, the amount of material on the ever-growing field of noise and noise control is very slight, while the chapter devoted to ultrasonics is little more than a list of ultrasonic engineering topics with nearly 100 references to bolster the section.

So far as the third edition is concerned, there is some new material in virtually every chapter, but the chief additions have been in the chapters on loudspeakers, microphones, and sound reproducing systems.

To the extent that acoustical engineering is a study of sound reproducing systems in air, with all the associated problems, this book is a complete text of acoustical engineering.

Theories of Nuclear Moments. By R. J. Blin-Stoyle. 89 pp. Oxford U. Press, New York, 1957. Paperbound $1.40. *Reviewed by M. E. Rose, Oak Ridge National Laboratory.*

With the exception of minor additions this book is identical with the very fine *Reviews of Modern Physics* article on nuclear moments by the author which ap-