G. Greenler, (P) Diffraction Gratings by R. P. Madden and John Strong, (Q) Mathematical Review by Trevor Williams.

The make-up of the book-its composition and typography, the illustrations, the quality of the paperare all in keeping with the high standard achieved in the text. However, a few criticisms may be made. In a book of this kind, requiring much mathematical formulation, the question of symbols is important, and if the choice is limited it is almost inevitable that some symbols must do double duty. To avoid ambiguity it is desirable, therefore, to restrict the various styles of type to various classes of magnitudes; for instance, Greek letters for angles; lower-case italics for ratios, constants, and other scalar quantities; bold-face Roman letters, preferably without serifs, for vectors; etc. Unfortunately, such a plan has not been followed in this book, and we see, for example, the letter r used to designate a ray, a radius, and an angle; h, h, and h used for Planck's constant; lower-case bold-face Roman letters for the unit vectors, for the speed of light, and for Boltzmann's constant; and italic capitals, capped with a macron, for the field vectors. All this is confusing to a reader and could be avoided if writers of physical mathematics could agree on a standardized scheme of notation. Finally, it is suggested that on page 168 the words "nuclear reactor" replace the word "cyclotron".

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