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some basic analytic and asymptotic properties of the Erlang functions and a number of tables of these functions together with a few other useful tables.

This volume does not pretend to be either a complete or a basic exposition of queueing theory but it does provide a very useful steppingstone to the application of the fundamental principles in this field to a number of practical examples. The treatment is kept alive by frequent review of the appropriate Kolmogoroff equations which govern the underlying probabilities and the presentation therefore has intrinsic interest apart from its usefulness as a practical handbook.

**Satellites and Spaceflight.** By Eric Burgess. 159 pp. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1958. \$3.95. *Reviewed by J. R. Pierce, Bell Telephone Laboratories.*

This modest book of 159 pages has a very special value. It is not wordy, watered down, and gee whizz, as books intended for the complete novice tend to be. On the other hand, it does not try to present all the details of every aspect of a hopelessly broad subject. Instead, it summarizes results and cites sources.

In this way, a surprising number of points concerning space flight are brought to the reader's attention. These include not only space medicine but human reaction time as its limit on the performance of space pilots, temperature on reentry, telescopic resolution on earth and in space, satellites as radio repeaters, accuracy of velocity required for moon-circling orbits, various orbits for a probe vehicle to Mars, berthing at a space station, ion rockets, and a great deal more. In fact, the book calls to the attention of the reader about all of the sensible ideas connected with space travel that anyone has expressed. In doing this, difficulties, and especially the difficulties of manned lunar and planetary flights, are adequately stressed.

This does not necessarily mean that every statement in the book is absolutely correct. On many points Mr. Burgess has to take the word of the authors of more technical material. In a few cases he cites references and makes statements which seem dubious to me. This is unlikely to mislead any competent person who pursues seriously the various matters introduced in a book which is less of a final authority than a sensible and valuable introduction and guide.

**Radiological Physics.** By M. E. J. Young. 365 pp. Academic Press Inc., New York, 1957. \$7.50. *Reviewed by Joseph G. Hoffman, University of Buffalo.*

In fourteen brief chapters the author has sketched the physical aspects of clinical applications of penetrating radiations. Although written as a short textbook for prospective clinicians, it serves also to introduce the physicist to the practical business of using radiations in therapy. The first eight chapters deal with the basic physics and engineering of production and measurement of radiations. X-ray apparatus and its circuitry are described along with high-energy devices such as