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The book is well written, and brings out many interesting points. It should certainly be read by all persons interested in the subject. Needless to say, it contains many controversial ideas, and many professional geophysicists will disagree with various interpretations. His point of view differs quite radically, for example, with that developed by Urey both about the origin and also about the subsequent physical-chemical history of the moon. Likewise his analysis of geomagnetic effects differs from that of Chapman. But his arguments are stimulating and interesting to follow, and this is a subject which is very new so that there does not exist a great body of data whose interpretation has met with widespread agreement.

1958 Heat Transfer and Fluid Mechanics Institute: Preprints of papers (U. of California, Berkeley, June 1958). 264 pp. Stanford U. Press, Stanford, Calif. \$8.50. Reviewed by C. M. Ablow, Stanford Research Institute.

As is pointed out in the preface, this group of preprints is only to be considered a basis for discussion with final versions of the papers appearing in appropriate journals. However, the quality of the individual papers is uniformly high and their reproduction, by a photographic process, is clean and legible so that the volume presents an attractive collection of the latest work in its field.

Two of the papers are listed as survey articles. That of R. K. Landshoff gives a short but comprehensive coverage of the subject matter, theoretical and experimental tools, and fields of application of magnetohydrodynamics. The article serves best as an index to its extensive but well-selected bibliography.

The paper on the "Drag of a Sphere Moving in a Conducting Fluid in the Presence of a Magnetic Field" by K. P. Chopra and S. F. Singer exemplifies the use of dimensional analysis in magnetohydrodynamics, for various cases of conducting or magnetized spheres moving in a plasma are tractable when the equations can be simplified because some nondimensional groupings may be very large or small.

The partial differential equations of motion in a magnetic laminar boundary layer are shown to be reducible to ordinary equations in a similarity parameter in the paper by P. S. Lykoudis under rather severe assumptions on the nature of the fluid and its flow. The three magnetohydrodynamic papers do show the analytic side of the subject to be very difficult with

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30 Commerce Road, Stamford, Connecticut Fireside 8-5381 few positive results in spite of its well-explored foundation in ordinary hydrodynamics.

The other survey article, by H. K. Emmons, entitled "Theoretical Aerothermodynamics", lists the general equations for flow, reaction, and transfer processes in fluids together with an indication of methods of solution. It is shown that present techniques permit the analytic solution of combustion problems in which only the chemical kinetics are simplified, by neglecting the temperature dependence of reaction parameters, for example. It goes without saying that a collection of such solutions would greatly enhance our understanding of combustion processes.

Solutions to some combustion problems along the above lines are exhibited in the study of combustion in a laminar boundary layer by J. P. Hartnett and E. R. G. Eckert and in the similar work on the flow of a reactive gas along a decomposing wall by E. K. Knuth.

More general studies almost without simplifying assumptions are that giving "Criteria for Thermodynamic Equilibrium in Gas Flow" by M. Rudin and that on "Wave Propagation in a Reacting Mixture" by B. T. Chu. In the latter it is shown that a wave front proceeds into undisturbed gas at a fixed sound speed even though, since the wave initiates a reaction, its amplitude decays so that only the passage of the variable speed reaction front is measurable.

The section on reactive fluids also includes a demonstration by M. Gerstein and A. E. Potter that even the use of greatly simplified reaction kinetics permits prediction of flame quenching distances in fair agreement with experiment.

Of the three papers in the fluid dynamics section, one by R. G. Deissler and M. Perlmutter contains a systematic analysis of compressible laminar and turbulent vortex flows which may be considered not oversimplified models for flows in a Ranque-Hilsch tube. These tubes have received a good deal of attention in the last few years providing as they do a separation of a gas flow into hot and cold streams without the use of machinery. The other two fluid dynamics papers by R. R. Mills and S. Corrsin and by S. W. Yuan and A. Barazotti report on experiments with turbulent flow in the presence of a contraction or of injection at the wall.

The studies in the heat transfer section of the collection all report on experiments approximately verifying earlier theoretical or empirical results. That of R. Hartunian, A. Russo, and P. Marrone concerns shock tubes and that of S. Globe and D. Dropkin natural convection heating. The paper by F. Kreith and D. Margolis investigates the effect of swirl in a pipe on heat transfer and gives a qualitative explanation for the observations.

The paper by P. H. Rose, M. C. Adams, and R. F. Probstein reports on the heat transfer at the nose of blunt bodies moving through partially dissociated air and includes a correlation of experimental evidence with their semiempirical theoretical explanation. The

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ADVANCED MECHANICS of FLUIDS. Edited by H. Rouse, State University of Iowa. A sequel to Rouse's Elementary Mechanics of Fluids, this book presents a rigorous and coherent approach to the analytical techniques of research, and incorporates the most recent developments in the field. 1958. 444 pages. Prob. \$9.75.

PHYSICAL LAWS and EFFECTS. By C. F. Hix and R. P. Alley, both of General Electric Co. Provides a convenient compilation of both familiar and unfamiliar laws and effects. One of a series written by General Electric authors for the advancement of engineering practice. 1958. 291 pages. \$7.95.

The SCIENCE of PHOTOGRAPHY. By H. Baines, Kodak Ltd., London. An authoritative and comprehensive survey of both processes and methods used in modern photography. 1958. 319 pages. \$7.50.

PROGRESS in SEMICONDUCTORS. Volume III. Edited by A. F. Gibson, Radar Research Establishment, Malvern, U.K.; R. E. Burgess, University of British Columbia; and P. Aigrain, Université de Paris. With 8 contributors. The third volume of a yearly international review of the semiconductor field. 1958. 210 pages. \$8.50.

SEMICONDUCTOR ABSTRACTS. Volume IV —1956 Issue: Abstracts of the Literature on Semiconducting and Luminescent Materials and Their Applications. Prepared jointly by members of the Solid State Devices Division and the Physical Chemistry Division of Battelle Memorial Institute. Edited by C. S. Peet, Battelle Memorial Institute. A publication in the Electrochemical Society Abstract Series. In press.

PLANNING of EXPERIMENTS. By D. R. Cox, University of London. Examines the ideas underlying modern work on the statistical aspects of experimental designs. One of the Wiley Publications in Statistics, Walter A. Shewhart and S. S. Wilks, Editors. 1958. 308 pages. \$7.50.

HANDBOOK of CHEMICAL MICROSCOPY

Volume I, Third Edition: Principles and Use of Microscopes and Accessories; Physical Methods for the Study of Chemical Problems. By the late E. M. Chamot and C. W. Mason, both of Cornell University. 1958. 502 pages. \$14.00.

YSIS. By A. E. Taylor, University of California, L. A. 1958. 423 pages. \$12.50.

NOISE in ELECTRON DEVICES. Edited by L. D. Smullen, and H. A. Haus, both of M.I.T. With 6 contributors. A Technology Press book, M.I.T. 1958. Approx. 432 pages. Prob. \$12.00.

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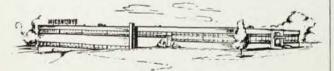
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report by A. J. Vitale, E. M. Kaegi, N. S. Diaconis, and W. R. Warren covers a similar experimental investigation. In contrast, S. M. Bogdonoff and I. E. Vas have conjectured that great reductions in heat transfer to a blunt body in hypersonic flow are possible if the flow is separated by a spike extending ahead of the body. Their experiments verify this provided the flow remains laminar. The problem of finding materials able to serve as practical spike tips is still open.

A. J. Hanawalt, A. H. Blessing, and C. M. Schmidt compute the temperatures of leading edges in very high-speed long continued flight and point out the practicality of insulated surfaces so that it is radiation that balances the aerodynamic heating. For short periods surface melting can be a useful heat sink as is pointed out by the calculations of S. M. Scala and G. W. Sutton.

The van Karman-Polhausen approximate integral method of boundary layer analysis is shown by P. A. Libby to give satisfactory agreement with more exact and exacting theoretical computation schemes for laminary hypersonic flow.

In summary, if this collection is a fair sample of the latest research it is evidence of an orderly advance, for all the papers can be readily subsumed under a few headings: combustion, dissociated gas dynamics, flow of real fluids. This means either that most investigators have recognized and attacked the few major problems of our time or perhaps that there is a more centralized control of basic research in this country than we should like to admit.

The Exploration of Space by Radio. By R. Hanbury Brown and A. C. B. Lovell. 207 pp. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1958. \$6.50. Reviewed by H. Mendlowitz, National Bureau of Standards.

In a field which started just about a quarter of a century ago, a well-written book of an introductory character is quite welcome. Actually, although the field of radio-astronomy is about twenty-five years old, the major advances in techniques and accumulation of data took place in the last decade. The authors themselves have made important original contributions in this field. It is not very often that those people who make significant advances in research in a scientific field can also be effective in presenting their work to those not acquainted with the field. Hanbury Brown and Lovell have been able to put together a rather nice book to serve as an introduction to the uninitiated without giving him the feeling that he is being "talked down" to.

The authors start with a short chapter to give the reader some background material in astronomy and then continue with an introduction of the subject by discussing properties of radio waves and the techniques of radio astronomy. After this the meaty part of the subject is discussed. This includes such topics as galactic and extragalactic radio emissions, the importance of the hydrogen 21-cm emission line in the study of interstellar space, and solar radio waves. One of the