Many names are mentioned when discussing an experiment, but few are accompanied by references. Perhaps the most obvious omission is the reference to Einstein's papers on Brownian movement (which have even been available in translation for many years), but others are also missing, such as Bohr's paper on the oscillation of a liquid jet.

As regards the contents of the text, we find many competent presentations of standard matters, and some sections (such as pp. 50–52) from which students will profit by *not* reading. The insistence upon the use of "probable error" rather than the much more general standard deviation (Chap. 13) is unfortunate. But, perhaps, for the level for which this book is intended, might these criticisms be too severe? No, for there is available at least one other book (*The General Properties of Matter* by Newman and Searle) to which none of these criticisms can be applied, and which overlaps almost completely with this one in the topics discussed. With an alternative available, and, further, with the possibility of ordering the English edition of this book direct, for little more than half the American price, this book, certainly in this edition, cannot be recommended.

Proceedings of the Fourth Midwestern Conference on Solid Mechanics (U. of Texas, Sept. 1959). 530 pp. U. of Texas, Austin, Tex., 1959. $12.50. Reviewed by *Ellis H. Dill, University of Washington.*

A SERIES of papers on the solution, mainly by approximate methods, of special problems in the theory of elastic and plastic solids is presented. Most of the problems concern static or dynamic loading of rods, plates, or shells producing elastic or plastic behavior. Other papers treat the following: dynamic stresses in an infinite medium resulting from an extensional dislocation (3); heat transmission in closed structural boxes (16); wave propagation in an infinite cylindrical body with zero surface displacements (22); method of experimental determination of material constants in plastic wave propagation (23); behavior of a spring mass system under random loads (27); finite integral transforms, and dynamics of spin-stabilized rigid body under propulsive load (29).

Besides the explanation of computational techniques, many results which illuminate the general theory are discovered; therefore, each of these papers is of great interest to the research specialist in one of the fields mentioned. It would, however, be impractical to list all of the interesting results, or even to mention more individual papers, in this review.

Proceedings of such meetings are most useful when they can be published close to the time of writing of the papers. In order to achieve this highly desirable end, this book was produced by photo-offset from the authors' manuscripts. The copy is satisfactory and this method has surely resulted in a record for rapid dissemination of the proceedings, the book having been published within two months following the conference.