

# PHYSICIST

(Metrologist)

Challenging assignment in the research and development of nuclear weapons for a physicist with an interest in metrology and optics, who desires to make significant contribution to the science of gauging.

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Appendices include a full index of notations and numerical values of physical quantities expressed in seconds, in a unit system (used throughout the book) in which the velocity of light and the gravitational constant are made unity. Although it is a matter of taste, I think that there is some loss in the fruitfulness of dimensional analysis. The extensive bibliography is worth special mention: There are over a thousand titles, including references to reviews.

Let us hope that Professor Synge will continue his outstanding work in a third book which could be entitled "Relativity: The So-Called Unified Theories."

**Fourier Transforms.** By Richard R. Goldberg. No. 52 of Tracts in Mathematics and Mathematical Physics, edited by P. Hall and F. Smithies. 76 pp. Cambridge U. Press, New York, 1961. \$3.75. *Reviewed by J. Gillis, The Weizmann Institute of Science.*

**F**OURIER transforms now play a leading role in such diverse fields as probability, x-ray crystallography, and the higher quantum mechanics. However, this little book is an elegant reminder that the physical applications make use of only the simplest formal properties of the integrals. The really deep properties are still without physical application and it is these which Prof. Goldberg expounds. In fact, one cannot help feeling that at least part of the trouble in x-ray crystallography may possibly stem from the failure of crystallographers to dig more deeply into the properties of Fourier transforms. Much more may be applicable if one only knew how.

The material is derived largely from the fundamental researches of Wiener, Bochner, and some others. But the beauty and lucidity of the exposition are clearly the author's own, though with signs of Bochner inspiration. The first three chapters expound the classical Wiener theory, which relates the closure of the translations of a function with the nonvanishing of its Fourier transform. This is generalized in Chapter 4, while Chapter 5 is devoted to Bochner's theorem. There is an appendix on Fourier transforms in topological groups. The book is well written and beautifully produced, and is a worthy addition to the "Cambridge Tracts" Series.

**Principles of Meteoritics.** By E. L. Krinov. Transl. from Russian by Irene Vidziunas. Transl. edited by Harrison Brown. 535 pp. Pergamon Press Ltd., Oxford, 1960. 70s. *Reviewed by Edward Anders, Enrico Fermi Institute for Nuclear Studies, University of Chicago.*

**N**OT counting earlier editions by the same authors, only four books on meteorites have appeared during the last half-century: O. C. Farrington's *Meteorites* (1915, 233 pp., now out of print); H. H. Nininger's *Out of the Sky* (1952, 335 pp.); F. Heide's *Kleine Meteoritenkunde* (1957, 142 pp.); and E. L. Krinov's work which has just been translated from the 1955 Russian original. Of these, Krinov's book is the most com-