increments of their arguments than in previous editions, and most of the material in the addenda to the paperback edition has been omitted, in particular the tables of solutions of the cubic equation. In general, however, the deletions are less significant than the additions in the new edition which should be considered a worthy successor to the previous editions. I'm not throwing away my paperback copy, however.

Careers in Physics (second ed.). By Alpheus W. Smith and Winston L. Hole. 310 pp. Long's College Book Co., Columbus, Ohio, 1960. $5.95. *Reviewed by D. J. Montgomery, Michigan State University.*

EVEN if all the members of the AIP needn't read this book, they need at least to know about it. This evaluation isn't just book reviewer's extravagance —every physicist sooner or later finds himself being solicited for information or opinion as to the choice of physics for a career. He can minimize his misinformation and yet bolster his bias with the aid of this presentation by Dean Smith and Doctor Hole. They have diligently striven to give a fair, enthusiastic, and complete account of the major opportunities open to physicists in America.

High-school and college students are the audience for whom the book is especially intended, and the level of presentation is appropriate for this group. The quality of the writing is satisfactory, but regrettably not excellent. A very good job has been done in weaving together the compilational parts of the work, but the historical and philosophical portions could well use a little matter-of-factness. The accuracy of the information is high, if the reviewer's limited direct experience, but somewhat wider hearsay evidence, affords an adequate basis of judgment.

Following introductory general chapters on physics as a way of life, the fields of specialization are described. Then comes the main body of the book, a description of careers in the academic world, in industrial laboratories, in governmental service, and in research institutes. Right in the middle of these is a chapter on careers in the nuclear sciences, an inconsistent classification motivated by the popular image of the physicist of today. Each walk of life is described sympathetically and intelligently. The authors' conviction that the academic life is the good life shows through, it is true, but this fact merely instances and emphasizes the devotion that physics inspires in its disciples in any field. The book concludes with a chapter on the likely growth of opportunities in physics, and with four appendixes, some of dubious relevance.

The burden of the message, that physics offers psychologically satisfying and financially adequate careers to those endowed with the requisite aptitude and character, comes through well. It makes a member of the profession a little humble and a little proud when he sees this stated in the old-school style, and a little relieved and grateful to find competent documentation at hand.