there is an introductory chapter in mathematics—in this case, the second chapter. However, it is not vector analysis that is treated but partial derivatives, line integrals and so forth. The chapter can easily be skipped and used solely as an appendix or reference source if the student's mathematical background is sufficient. After chapter two the usual topics found in textbooks written for this level are covered.

There is one difference that the authors explain in their first chapter, which deals with basic definitions. Battino and Wood use what they call the "operational" approach whereby "a word used to describe a phenomenon observed in nature has meaning only with reference to the phenomenon itself . . ." Whether or not this approach will have its full effect on the student will, to a great extent, depend on the teacher. Certainly it is an interesting and commendable modern method.

Although all the mathematics are present, there is a real and successful effort to devote time and space to physical discussions. This is particularly well done in the use of simple and clear diagrams and discussion of experiments. The chapters on heat and work serve as good foundations for the following chapter on the First Law. A brief chapter is devoted to the "porous-plug" (Joule-Thomson) experiment, and this coverage appears worthwhile. The succeeding chapters, on the Second Law, entropy, and so on, cover the material with considerable clarity. If the instructor would like to introduce the student to kinetic theory or a few concepts in statistical mechanics, the Battino-Wood book is not for him; as a text in what might be called classical thermodynamics with some chemical overtones, however, this is a worthwhile book to examine carefully. There are ample problems with answers supplied.

James B. Kelley, professor of physics at Marquette University, specializes in electromagnetism and electrodynamics.

# Revolution in analytical chemistry

PRACTICAL X-RAY SPECTROMETRY. By Ronald Jenkins, Johan L. de Vries. 182 pp. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1967. \$7.80

by H. A. LIEBHAFSKY

Physics is revolutionizing analytical

chemistry. Not the least important aspect of this revolution is the use of emitted x rays for the determination of all but the lightest elements. Shortly after World War II the precise measurement of x-ray intensity became an easy routine, and analytical chemists came to realize that they could turn to good use the simplicity of x-ray spectra. Applications of x-ray methods soon multiplied. They were accompanied by similar applications drawn from experimental nuclear physics and by the development of new equipment, of which the electron microprobe is perhaps the outstanding example. Now the computer is beginning to make itself felt, and the end is not in sight.

Among the many recent books that deal with x rays in analytical chemistry, Practical X-Ray Spectrometry distinguishes itself by the emphasis it puts on practical problems "as opposed to the multitude of success stories which regularly saturate the scientific press." The authors are on sound ground, and they no doubt arrived there because of their extensive experience. Associated with a major international manufacturer of x-ray equipment, Jenkins and de Vries have, over several years, trained newcomers to the field, and they have organized scientific meetings those physicists who are more experienced. The book is based on their lec-

The physicist will find some of the subjects familiar, and others new. The familiar: the physics of x rays, their dispersion and detection, pulseheight selection and the statistics of counting. The new: matrix effects, the determination of elements, sample preparation and trace analysis-topics that principally concern the analytical chemist. For an impression of the authors' approach, consider the treatment of x-ray dispersion by crystals (Bragg reflection). The usual treatment is augmented by three extensive and critical tables that deal with six geometric arrangements of spectrometers, with analyzing crystals, and with comparative intensities obtained with five crystals for x rays of long wave length; these crystals are useful in the (difficult but rapidly growing) determinations of elements as light as fluorine. In addition the effects of the general conditions of the crystals, of changing temperature, of the emission of characteristic lines by the crystals and of "Each football player is represented by an X. The team is represented by eleven 'particles'..."

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W.A. BENJAMIN, INC. Two Park Avenue • New York 10016 abnormal reflections are all described. The book contains extensive worked out problems.

There is an understandable emphasis on Philips's work and equipment. Occasional mistakes in English have survived proofreading. More important to me, however, is the matter of nomenclature. I feel that "x-ray spectrometry" ought to be restricted to the measurements of wavelengths and intensities, and that "fluorescence" as applied to x rays has outlived any usefulness it might once have had. I prefer "x-ray emission spectrography" to describe what the authors variously call "x-ray spectrometry" (title), "x-ray fluorescence spectrometry" (preface), "x-ray fluorescence analysis" (p. 160), and "x-ray spectroscopy" (p. 171). The book is badly needed and is highly recommended.

The reviewer, professor of chemistry, Texas A & M University, has been interested in x rays for the past 20 years; he is a senior author of X-Ray Emission and Absorption in Analytical Chemistry, Wiley, New York, 1960.

. . .

#### **NEW BOOKS**

#### CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings—Electron Microscopy Society of America. (Conf. proc.) Claude J. Arcenaux, ed. (New Orleans, La., 16–19 Sept. 1968) 496 pp. Claitor's Publishing Division, Baton Rouge, La., 1968.

Wolf-Rayet Stars. (NBS-307). (Symp. proc.) Katharine B. Gebbie and Richard N. Thomas, eds. (Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics, NBS, Boulder, Colorado, 10–14 June 1968) 277 pp. National Bureau of Standards, Washington, DC, 1968. \$3.00

The Structure of Low-Medium Mass Nuclei. (Symp. proc.) J. P. Davidson, ed. (University of Kansas, 18–20 April 1968) 294 pp. Univ. Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, 1968. \$12.50

Energetics in Metallurgical Phenomena, Vol. IV. (Symp. proc.) William M. Mueller, ed. (University of Denver, 1965). 381 pp. Gordon & Breach, New York, 1968. Cloth \$19.50, paper \$12.50

Fundamental Problems in Elementary Particle Physics. (Conf. proc.) Solvay Institute, eds. (University of Brussels, October 1967) 250 pp. Wiley (Interscience), New York, 1968. \$13.50

The Use of Small Accelerators for Teaching and Research. (Conf. proc.) Jerome L. Duggan, ed. (Oak Ridge Associated Universities, Oak Ridge, Tenn., 8–10 April 1968) 464 pp. Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific and Technical Information, NBS, Springfield, Va., 1968. \$3.00

#### **ELEMENTARY PARTICLES**

Advances in Particle Physics, Vol. 2. R. L. Cool and R. E. Marshak, eds. 734 pp. Wiley, New York, 1968. \$24.95

Lectures in Theoretical High Energy Physics. H. H. Aly, ed. 439 pp. Wiley (Interscience), New York, 1968. \$17.50

#### NUCLEI

Collective Excitations in Nuclei. By S. T. Belyaev. 74 pp. Gordon & Breach, New York, 1968. Cloth \$5.50, paper \$3.50 Lectures on the Mossbauer Effect. By J. Danon. 150 pp. Gordon & Breach, New York, 1968. Cloth \$7.50, paper \$4.50

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The Physics of Vibrations and Waves. By H. J. Pain. 241 pp. Wiley, New York, 1969. \$5.95

Physical Acoustics, Vol. 5: Principles and Methods. Warren P. Mason, ed. 301 pp. Academic, New York, 1969. \$14.50

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Principles of Quantum Electronics. By Will S. C. Chang. 540 pp. Addison-Wesley, Reading, Mass., 1969. \$17.50 Plasma Spectroscopy. By Geoffrey V. Marr. 316 pp. American Elsevier, New York, 1969. \$21.50

#### **ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM**

Theorie du Magnetisme. By André Herpin. 882 pp. Presses Universitaires de France, Paris, 1968.

Advances in Electronics and Electron Physics, Vol. 25. L. Marton and Claire Marton, eds. 340 pp. Academic Press, New York, 1969. \$16.00

#### FLUIDS, PLASMAS

Plastics Rheology: Mechanical Behaviour of Solid and Liquid Polymers. By R. S. Lenk. 214 pp. Wiley (Interscience), New York, 1968. \$11.00

Gas Dynamics. By Ernst Becker. 297 pp. Academic, New York, 1969. \$15.00

Plasma Physics, Vol. 2. By J. L. Delcroix. 188 pp. Wiley, New York, 1969. \$9.95

Plasma Diagnostics. W. Lochte-Holtgreven, ed. 928 pp. Wiley (Interscience), New York, 1968. \$38.50

Plasma Spectroscopy. By Geoffrey V. Marr. 316 pp. American Elsevier, New York, 1969, \$21.50

Physics of Simple Liquids. H. N. V. Temperley, J. S. Rowlinson and G. S. Rushbrooke, eds. 713 pp. Wiley (Interscience), New York, 1968. \$33.50