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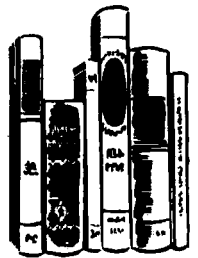
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**books  
 reviewed**

**Television Production**

**The TV Handbook & Dictionary**

By Harry Wayne McMahan. Published (1957) Hastings House, 41 East 50 St., N.Y. 231 pp. Illus. 6 by 9-in. Price \$7.50.

Harry McMahan's latest book, *Television Production*, should have been entitled "The Television Vocabulary." It is a simple, yet very useful approach to the subject. The whole book is like a very thorough and extensive glossary (the index contains over 2,000 listings) in which the terms are not organized alphabetically — the index provides this function — but are grouped together under the subjects where they apply.

A familiarity with the vocabulary of a new field is the first need of a student of the subject, as well as of the professional who faces his first assignments in the medium. This book can provide a very useful reference during these early stages. It is not intended to be the kind of book that is read through chapter by chapter, although the writing is smooth enough to make this a not unpleasant task.

Although *TV Production* may be of limited value to those who are already at least familiar with the lingo of the medium, it is a book which could well be given to admen, sponsors and public relations people whose frequently encountered ignorance of common terms and processes is time-consuming and irritating to the TV professional. The high price of the volume will unfortunately prevent its use in schools where it might otherwise find adoption in beginning TV production courses.—*Rudy Bretz*, TV and Radio Div., Theatre Arts Dept., Univ. Calif. L.A., Los Angeles 24.

**The Measurement of Colour**

By W. D. Wright. Published (1958) by the Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth Ave., New York 11. 263 pp., illus., tables. 8 plates (color and black-and white). 8½ by 5½-in. Price \$10.75.

A further contribution to color measurement by W. D. Wright is always welcome. His own data on color mixture perceptions formed a significant part of the "standard observer" specifications set in 1931 by the International Commission on Illumination (CIE), and his presentation of such material has always been absorbing.

The present book is a second edition. There has been a considerable questioning in recent years on the detailed exactness of fit of the 1931 standards with actual human vision. The author states that at

one time he "hoped that the CIE would reach a decision about the possible revision of the standard observer data in time for its inclusion in this new edition, but this has not proved to be the case." Thus the book is confined to a considerable reworking of the earlier edition, together with some discussion of the points now at issue (mostly a questioning of the data in the extreme blues, a questioning of the effects of higher brightness and larger field of view, and more fundamentally a questioning of the exactness of linearity of color mixture phenomena).

The general contents of the book cover much more background material on radiation, on the structure and functioning of the eye, and on general photometry. On strictly color measurement it covers the principles of colorimetry, the CIE system, color atlases, and practical colorimeters and spectrophotometers. Applications of colorimetry to three-color reproduction and to general color problems are also covered. Finally a group of useful colorimetry tables is provided in appendices.

Much earlier presentation of color-mixing phenomena has been very glib regarding the units in which the components were measured. This held particularly in transformed mixture equations, where the components chosen were often non-physical. Dr. Wright has gone to great pains to make these units clear. Another feature contributing to clarity of exposition has been to confine nearly all of the extensive triple groups of linear equations, which adorn all serious discussions on colorimetry, to a single section on "the algebra and geometry of colorimetry." A minor misprint occurs in Plate 4, where the most saturated color swatch is set on the absorption characteristic denoting least saturation.

One is somewhat disappointed that so little is included of the newer techniques for the significant description and specification of color differences. Much of this is scattered, and a good summary would have been most useful here.—*Pierre Mertz*, Lido, Long Beach, L.I., N.Y.

**A new List and Index of American Standards** has been announced by ASA. The 67-page Index contains 465 standards published since the 1956 edition. A total of 1720 American Standards are listed; 43 recommendations of the International Electrotechnical Commission and 44 of the International Organization for Standardization. A total of 275 standards (pp. 47-52) relate to photography and motion pictures. Further information is available from American Standards Association, 70 E. 45 St., New York 17.

**The 8mm Cine Guide** by Robert Grosjean and Pierre Monier is a publication of Paillard Ltd., Sainte-Croix, Switz., available from Bolex franchised dealers. Written especially for amateurs and hobbyists, the 100-page booklet is beautifully illustrated and contains many helpful suggestions. It is priced at \$1.50.

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