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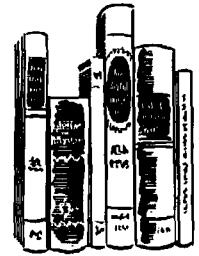
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**books
 reviewed**

**The Grammar of Television
 Production**

By Desmond Davis. Published (1960) by Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth Ave., New York 11. 64 pp. 8½ by 5½ in. Illus., numerous sketches. Price \$2.95.

This book is concerned primarily with the techniques of television program production in a modern well-equipped television studio. The techniques that are described have evolved over a long period of years and are now well established and accepted by the majority of television producers.

The book begins with a brief summary of the "Conventions," the practices that are now considered as obligatory for normal studio productions. The major part of the book is concerned with what are called Rules, Hints and Tips. These are listed in five categories: (1) Editing, (2) Lenses, (3) Composition, (4) Camera Work and (5) General. The Rules are also considered essentially obligatory, while the Hints and Tips offer some latitude. The last few pages of the book are devoted to a Glossary of Terms.

The reaction of the average television producer to this book is that it is on the whole quite elementary. The information presented in the book summarizes what every producer would be expected to know backwards and forwards without the need for a textbook. Its usefulness, then, is presumably limited to teaching those in the activities associated with television production the elementary rules of what it is all about. In this respect, the book does an effective and thorough job. The Glossary reflects the fact that the author acquired his television production experience in England, so that some of the terms will appear a little strange to American ears.

It is apparent that considerable time and effort were spent in preparing and arranging the material in this book in an effective and useful form. In this respect, the book is particularly successful.—*Waldemar J. Poch*, Astro-Electronics Div., Radio Corp. of America, Princeton, N.J.

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