BOOK REVIEWS

Acoustics, A Text on Theory and Applications. G. W. STEWART, Professor of Physics in the University of Iowa, AND R. B. LINDSAY, Associate Professor of Theoretical Physics in Brown University. *D. Van Nostrand Co.*, New York, N. Y., 1930, 358 pp. $5.00.

This book fills a long-felt need for a text to fit between the elementary texts and the advanced and detailed mathematical treatises on this subject. The authors have combined the results of the important researches of the last decade, both from the theoretical and practical viewpoints in such a way as to give the student or general reader a broad view of the present-day activities in the many phases of the science of acoustics.

Students of acoustics will gain an insight into the numerous fields of application of the science such as sound transmission in pipes, horns, sound filters, sub-aqueous sound signaling, architectural acoustics, and sound ranging, and will find the book convenient for reference to theoretical analyses.

In Chapter I are described some simple properties of acoustical waves such as reflection, diffraction, and energy content. The fundamental theory of acoustical waves including the general equations is set forth. Chapter IX includes a brief account of physiological acoustics, so important to the sound engineer. The topics discussed include the nature of speech sounds and binaural effects. In Chapter XI on architectural acoustics are presented the problems of reverberation, brought up to date to include the latest developments in the field, and a discussion of sound-proofing. These chapters contain much of the material which will be of interest to the motion picture engineer. While in many cases the presentation of the subject matter is very brief, ample reference to the literature will assist those who wish to go further into any particular phase of acoustics.

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