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Book Reviews

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The purpose of this book is to introduce a wide segment of the scientific community to the rapidly developing field of bio-medical telemetry. The book includes both introductory electronics for the benefit of the biologist and enough biological information to give the engineers some idea of the problems faced by the biologist in studying the physiology of animals under as natural conditions as possible. The author does an excellent job of explaining the applications of bio-telemetry, pointing out both the advantages and disadvantages. The book contains enough "how to" information so that the beginner could build his own unit for telemetering simple physiological parameters over short distances. For those interested in a more detailed study of how to build their own telemetry setups, there is an excellent 75-page bibliography containing approximately 1600 references.

The advances made in the uses of bio-telemetry in monitoring various physiological phenomena in animals of all sizes (especially in small mammals) in the past two years make the second edition of this book, with its increased reference list (includes references from as late as 1969), a worthwhile book for anyone who is considering working with bio-telemetry. The book is well illustrated, having both schematic electrical diagrams and pictures of actual telemetry units in operation. In this book the author more than achieves what he set out to do, that is, to introduce bio-medical telemetry to the scientific community in a language understandable to scientists of various disciplines.

SHELDON I. LUSTICK


This reprint of the translation of the original book in French in 1954 by Jean Dufay is still an excellent text book, in as far as the basic fundamentals are concerned, and will give the reader a very clear understanding of the atomic processes that occur in gaseous nebulae and interstellar matter.

Since its publication in 1954 and its updating, for purposes of translation, in 1955, the book has become in some respects outdated. In the past fifteen years, new discoveries, concepts, and observational data have come into being which were not available at the time the late Jean Dufay wrote his original volume. However, such new information can be obtained from much later texts on this subject.

This book, as well as other texts by Jean Dufay, is well written and well worth reading for a basic fundamental understanding of the subject.

STANLEY J. CZYZAK