

lattice truss, voltage distribution in a suspension insulator, critical speeds of a multicylinder engine, leading to a mechanical wave filter, and electric wave filters. (In the last, an attenuator is incorrectly called a "wave trap," which is a resonant element.)

Following the chapters appears a short section entitled "words and phrases" intended to give certain "strictly mathematical definitions" and starting with Kronecker's dictum, "God made the integers; all the rest is the work of man." It seems surprising to have this dictum endorsed by engineers and physicists: it might better be replaced by the statement, *God made both discrete and continuous physical quantities; man devised means (integers and real numbers) for representing them.* This section in general seems out of place and of little help to a reader who would be capable of using the book.

Besides a few obvious typographical errors, the reviewer noticed the following errors: last equation, p. 108, a minus sign should precede the first term in each member; the answer to Problem 12, p. 108, has the inequality reversed; the answer to Problem 16, p. 109, not only uses k for K but incorrectly gives a stable solution; the first answer to Problem 1, p. 210, incorrectly has the factor $1/2$; the equation on p. 131 is written as if t were under the radical sign. (It is unfortunate that radical signs are used in place of fractional exponents throughout the book.)

This is a book which should be in the library of every engineer who is interested in the analytical development of his subject. It should be studied by mathematicians who are willing to admit that their place in society may need justification on other than purely intellectual grounds. It is well adapted as a text or for collateral study in an advanced course in applied mathematics or in theoretical mechanics. The authors are to be congratulated in so competently supplying a real need.

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Development of the Minkowski Geometry of Numbers. By Harris Hancock. (Published with the aid of the Charles Phelps Taft Memorial Fund and of two Friends.) New York, Macmillan, 1939. 24+839 pp. \$12.00.

Professor Hancock says in the introduction of his book: "In every subject that occupies the human mind, be it history, philosophy, law, medicine, science, music, etc., there arise outstanding men who evince an innate genius in their special fields, an innateness that seems as it were of divine origin. Minkowski was one of the great mathematicians of all time." It is the aim of Hancock's book to make an