takes, we also take comfort in the following thought attributed to a Chinese philosopher: 'If you write a letter to a friend, be certain to include at least one mistake. In this way you will make him feel superior'." The author does include a few minor errors—just enough to make the reader happy—but in no way do they impair the usefulness of his book.

The book is designed for a one-semester graduate course and seems, aside from the above reservation about choice of material, to be well suited to its purpose. Parts of it have also been used successfully in courses for undergraduates who have some understanding of the fundamentals of linear algebra and of the rudiments of Euclidean topology.

The book has been translated into German by E. Heil and published in 1968 by the Hochschultaschenbücher-Verlag, Bibliographisches Institut, Mannheim.

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Nonlinear two point boundary value problems, by Paul Bailey, Lawrence Shampine, and Paul Waltman. Math. in Science and Engineering, vol. 44, Academic Press, New York, 1968. xiii+171 pp. $9.50.

In the preface, the authors state "the purpose of this book is to describe as simply as possible a number of the ideas and methods which seem to be particularly helpful in the study of nonlinear boundary value problems for differential equations of second order." The authors are primarily interested in establishing existence and uniqueness theorems for solutions of two point boundary value problems on as large an interval as possible for second order differential equations of the form

$$(1.1) \qquad\qquad y'' + f(t, y, y') = 0.$$

The only two point problems considered in this monograph are the *first boundary value problem* on $[a, b]$ where the value of the unknown function $y(t)$ is prescribed at each end of the interval

$$(1.2) \qquad\qquad y(a) = A, \qquad y(b) = B,$$

and the *second boundary value problems* where the value of $y(t)$ is prescribed at one end and the slope is prescribed at the other, either

$$(1.3) \qquad\qquad y(a) = A, \qquad y'(b) = m$$

or