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Recent Advances in the Engineering Sciences, Proceedings of Conference on Science and Technology for Deans of Engineering, Purdue University, September, 1957, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York 1958). 257 pages. \$4.75.

With the rapidly developing science and technology of today there is an increasing demand for engineers having an educational background built on a more solid foundation of mathematics and science than is provided by the usual engineering curriculum. This demand is being met in part today by men whose first training is in mathematics and science and who later develop the required interest and background in engineering and in part by men who start their education in engineering school and later acquire interest and background in mathematics and science. It has been proposed that the education of these men might be better accomplished by a program which recognizes from the beginning the duality of interests. The concept of the engineering sciences arises naturally from the demand for such a program, and the general nature of the engineering sciences can be surmised from the requirements noted above. Because the concept, which has been adopted in several institutions, is of interest to many schools and because it is still in its forma-

tive stages the conference which is the subject of this book was held.

The basic plan of the conference involved first the selection of seven topics which might be regarded as engineering sciences. Two speakers were then selected for each topic, one to present a survey of the field and the other to discuss the impact of this field on engineering education. The selection of topics should not be taken as a definition of the fields of engineering science, either by inclusion or omission. It will be apparent that some of these topics might well be combined into more general headings and that some areas have not been included. The particular areas which were chosen for this conference are automation and automatic control; operations research and systems engineering; thermodynamics; mass, momentum, and heat transfer; nuclear engineering; solid state physics and engineering materials; and computer development and application.

The articles vary considerably in depth. In general however they are written for an engineering audience without specialized training in the various topics. Most engineers will find the surveys of the various fields to be of interest. Also of interest to engineers in practice and in education will be the authors' opinions as to trends in engineering education.

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