

## BOOK REVIEW

D. G. WILSON, ALAN D. SOLOMON and PAUL T. BOGGS (Editors). **Moving Boundary Problems**. Academic Press, New York (1977).

THIS book is a collection of the written versions of papers presented at a conference. The conference took place in Gatlinburg, Tennessee in September 1977 and attracted experts from three relevant areas of research, as can be ascertained from the list of contents which contains the sub-headings *Theory Papers* (four in number), *Methods Papers* (seven items) and *Applications Papers* (five articles). *Relevant* is what one has a right to assume such papers to be, without being reminded of the fact, but relevant to whom is a question less often asked and much less often answered, so that it is very interesting to read the last seven pages of the book. These summarise the short panel discussion, concluding the meeting, that addressed itself to the matter, amongst others, of "bridging the gaps" between theoreticians, numerical analysts and engineers. The fact

that all of these groups were in one place and talking to each other provides *an* answer; one is even tempted to propose that it also provides the *only* answer.

Of course the moving boundary to which the title alludes is one travelling through a continuum and bringing with it a change of that continuum's phase; the Stefan problem as it is frequently called. In general terms, the Theory papers concern themselves with existence and uniqueness and the Methods papers with numerical techniques, their convergence properties and effectiveness of the various algorithms. Applications range from semi-conductors to the Alaskan pipeline. The present volume should have a place on the shelves of those working in this widely relevant (!) field.

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