B. Krekó, Lehrbuch der linearen Optimierung, 3rd ed., VEB Deutscher Verlag der Wissenschaften, Berlin, 1968, XIV + 410 pp., price: 26,80 MDN.

This book contains a description of the solution of various linear optimization problems, such as the transport problem, optimization of a linear function under linear constraints and the assignment problem. It is primarily written for econometrists with a somewhat limited mathematical background. They can find a comprehensible and practical introduction and treatment of the above mentioned problems in the first and third part of the book. The second part gives a mathematical basis for the problems, the solutions of which were described in the other two parts.
An objection to this book is the fact, that more advanced techniques, that can be very helpful for practical use, are not given in the nonmathematical parts 1 and 3. To become acquainted with these matters, one has to plough his way through the mathematical part 2. For example, when treating the transportation problem, a systematic procedure should be given to improve a basic solution.
The simplex algorithm, as introduced in part 1, is very elaborate, if the number of restrictions is high. If the inverse matrix method and the duality principle would be described, the possibility would be opened to systematize the evaluation and to minimize the number of calculations. There is no harm in mentioning and defining these procedures without giving exact proofs of them. For these more rigorous treatments, ambitious readers could be directed to the second part.
It is hard to predict, how this book will be received in the world of economists. However, the bare appearance of the book for this class of users seems to be a good initiative, for which the author deserves to be complemented.

C. de Wit