

Book Review

Basic Practice of Chemical Engineering, by Esber I. Shaheen, Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1975, £ 10.95.

This book provides a useful reference source to general chemical engineering concepts and principles in a very clear and concise manner. For those who have the occasional need to refer to chemical engineering data but who are not professional chemists or engineers, this is an ideal volume. The Appendices, which cover over sixty pages of the four-hundred-page book, summarise the mathematical principles needed in an almost chatty style and provide a wealth of data which will often remove the need to hold many other data tabulations.

Of special interest to our readers will be the sections on energy balances and the environment, which are well worth reading in their own right. Problems are given at the end of each chapter, which serve the technologist as well as the student in illustrating practical applications of the chapter contents. Similarly, the comprehensive sets of nomenclature definitions and references associated with the individual chapters make each self-contained.

A section on the use of computers to solve material balance problems, which is associated with detailed programming routines, is almost a computer course in itself and should encourage a rational use of a computer.

Although clearly designed for use by chemical engineering students, the book is well written and excellently presented and should have wide applications as a basic reference source in design offices and laboratories.

F.S.F.