E. I.

99[X].—D. C. HANDSCOMB, Editor, *Methods of Numerical Approximation*, Pergamon Press, New York, 1966, ix + 218 pp., 24 cm. Price $9.50.

This volume is a gem! In spite of the fact that it is written by six authors, the articles are remarkably even in style and clarity. The lectures given at a Summer School held at Oxford University in September 1965 formed the basis for this book. Both the theoretical and the practical aspects of approximation methods are developed. A listing of the chapter headings with their authors will serve to indicate the scope of the book:

E. I.

100[X].—M. V. WILKES, F.R.S., *A Short Introduction to Numerical Analysis*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, England, 1966, 76 pp., 22 cm. Price $4.75.

As the title indicates, this is a very short (76 pp.) introduction to numerical analysis. It is also reasonably priced, with a paper bound edition available for $1.95 from Cambridge University Press. The author covers the usual topics treated in a first course in numerical analysis. These include iteration, interpolation, numerical integration and differentiation, the solution of ordinary differential equations, and the solution of linear systems. The level of the material is fairly elementary, although the author does not hesitate to use advanced concepts to simplify derivations. The emphasis is on methods rather than proofs.

The chapter on Interpolation is by far the longest chapter, and, considering the length of the book, by far too long, especially since many important concepts and methods are omitted.

This book has some value as a quick reference book. As a textbook it is of questionable value. The brevity of the material, the omission of proofs and the general lack of cohesion make it, in the referee's opinion, unsatisfactory even for an undergraduate course in numerical analysis.

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101[X, Z].—T. E. HULL, *Introduction to Computing*, Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J., 1966, xi + 212 pp., 24 cm. Price $6.95.

This text is divided into three main parts of five chapters each: first, a discussion of the basic properties of computers and of simple algorithms using machine-