

roots, a large number of them are either so unfamiliar as to be difficult to remember or simply awfully discordant. Examples: 'programmoïde' for 'software', 'discotrope' for 'disk-oriented', 'ordinolingue' for 'in machine language', 'disque-programmo-thèque' for 'library disk'.

Besides these matters of principle, there are a number of lesser shortcomings. The translation sometimes lacks consistency: 'control card' becomes 'carte de controle' while 'control character' is translated as 'caractère de commande'. Even though the authors claim to have consulted a large body of existing literature, nowhere do they specifically reference their sources. They do not explain precisely what domain is covered by their dictionary: A number of terms related to electronics are included ('adjustable voltage divider'), but one finds almost no terms from the mathematical aspects of computer science or from the metatheory (how does one translate 'Algol-like' or 'context-free'?). Finally, some of the translations are inaccurate: e.g., 'actual size' translated by 'grandeur réelle' which in fact means 'real quantity' or 'real value'. In conclusion, even though French-speaking professionals may indeed feel the need for an accurate dictionary of computer science terms, it seems far from certain that this book will answer their needs.

E. MILGROM

Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences
New York University
251 Mercer Street
New York, New York 10012

58[12].—T. F. FRY, *Computer Appreciation*, Philosophical Library, New York, 1971, viii + 237 pp., 23 cm. Price \$15.00.

In the 237 pages of his book "Computer Appreciation", Mr. T. F. Fry has collected a comprehensive body of essential computer science material and presented it in an easy-to-read, easy-to-understand manner. This carefully worded book represents a worthwhile contribution to a field which, unfortunately, is all too often cluttered with so-called elementary books written in a language which only the sophisticated computer programmer can comprehend. Not so with Mr. Fry's book. He provides excellent reading for students of almost any basic course in computer science, and, more particularly, for students of business.

I believe the questions which are to be found at the end of each chapter are not only appropriate but also sufficiently stimulating to provide ample material for discussion in the class room.

If Mr. Fry is guilty of over-simplification, this is intentional rather than accidental and he is to be complimented rather than criticized. This book will not teach the reader *any* computer language, but it was not designed to do so. It succeeds very well in providing the necessary background for computer appreciation—which indeed, is the book's title.

HENRY MULLISH

Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences
New York University
251 Mercer Street
New York, New York 10012