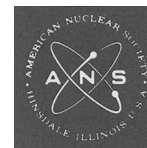


# BOOK REVIEWS

Selection of books for review is based on the editors' opinions regarding possible reader interest and on the availability of the book to the editors. Occasional selections may include books on topics somewhat peripheral to the subject matter ordinarily considered acceptable.



**Title** Nuclear Power Plant Design  
**Author** Harry A. Kiljian  
**Publisher** A. S. Barnes and Co.  
**Price** \$30.00  
**Reviewer** T. V. Sheehan

*Nuclear Power Plant Design* seems to this reviewer to be a strange mixture of a small amount of very good general nuclear information for the engineer together with a large amount of rather pedestrian calculations on the components of nuclear plants. In addition, there is a section on fossil-fueled plants which seems out of place in a nuclear text. There are drawings of pumps, cranes, tanks, heat exchangers, boilers, air compressors, etc., which are no doubt all right but the practicing engineer generally relies on preliminary copies of all these drawings from the manufacturers with whom he is dealing. This information in the textbook would be useful for only the sketchiest approach to a design. There is a 30-page section of appendices of material which is generally available in standard specialized places.

If, as the author claims, he wishes to review with the reader design features of several different types of plants and the ancillary operations of fuel processing and preparation, I think he could have done a great job with fewer pages by using only his excellent descriptive type of writing and by leaving out calculations, tables, drawings, etc.

*Mr. Sheehan is a mechanical engineer (graduate of the University of Illinois, 1929) and for 40 years has practiced engineering; 18 years in the manufacture of petroleum products and 22 years in nuclear engineering. He is a fellow of the ASME, a senior scientist at Brookhaven National Laboratory, and has held highly responsible positions in the design of both the Brookhaven Graphite Reactor and the High Flux Beam Reactor. In addition, he is head of the engineering division of the Applied Science Department.*

**Title** Engineering Compendium on Radiation Shielding  
**Editors** R. G. Jaeger, Editor-in-Chief; E. P. Blizard; A. B. Chilton; M. Grotenhuis; A. Hönig; Th. A. Jaeger; H. H. Eisenlohr, Coordinating Editor.  
**Publisher** Springer-Verlag, New-York Inc.  
**Pages** XII + 537  
**Price** \$60.00  
**Reviewer** W. E. Kreger

That the field of shielding is populated with productive people is clearly evident in this first compilation of their work to come along in many years. However, if this first volume (of two) is any indication of

what the total is to be, then the first part of the definition of compendium, "a brief, comprehensive summary" is considerably exceeded.

The editors "have aimed at a complete presentation of the subject, covering and linking both the technology and the science of shielding." The first volume covers more of the latter—and thoroughly so. It is a very desirable addition to the library of every research establishment which deals in any way with radiation, for the coverage of radiation sources and radiation attenuation is quite complete and extensive. Unfortunately the price will surely prevent an even wider distribution that this work may very well deserve.

It is difficult for this reviewer to judge whether this work will achieve its potentially greatest value, namely to create a useful design tool for the practicing engineer, since it is the second volume which purports to deal fully with practical design problems. The first volume is, in general, too lengthy and detailed to be used by a designer who is looking for the quickest and most effective way to his goal. Some subjects are actually treated at several different places and in different ways in this volume, with no assistance provided to the reader regarding which method will best suit his needs. However, most of the subjects are covered so well that if one is willing to search for a particular piece of data, or method of solving his problem he will certainly have a good chance of finding what he needs.

This volume suffers from what must be a common problem in books having many authors. The editors were not able to get a uniform message to their authors. Some of the