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BOOKS

ELEMENTS OF HYDRAULIC ENGINEERING

By Ray K. Linsley, Jr.,
and Joseph B. Franzini
McGraw-Hill, New York

\$9.00

*Reviewed by Norman H. Brooks,
Asst. Prof. of Civil Engineering*

PROFESSORS LINSLEY and Franzini of Stanford have produced an unusual elementary book covering all the principal phases of hydraulics engineering encountered by civil engineers. It is unique in that it attempts to show the common basis of the subjects of irrigation, water supply, hydroelectric power, river navigation, drainage, sewerage and sewage treatment, and flood control—all of which are rarely treated in a single book. It is intended to be a textbook for undergraduates and not a comprehensive reference book for practicing engineers.

The first section of the book deals with the fundamentals of hydrology and water law; the second section includes chapters covering basic hydraulic structures, hydraulic machinery, and economic aspects of hydraulic projects. The third section treats the various hydraulic engineering fields (enumerated above), all of which are based to some extent on the subject matter covered in the first two sections. It is an excellent approach, for the student should learn the fundamentals of all hydraulic engineering before narrowly specializing in irrigation, water supply, or some other specific field. There is no other American textbook with this arrangement of subject matter.

The book is descriptive rather than analytical in nature. Because of its broad scope, none of the subjects is covered thoroughly and the treatment is sometimes superficial and over-simplified. However, numerous references to the literature are included, so that it is not too difficult to find more detailed information. In their efforts to be all-inclusive, the authors are perhaps guilty of trying to include too many topics; for example, the section on stability of slopes could be better left to a soil mechanics textbook.

The readers of this publication will be interested in the fact that the junior author of this fine work is Joseph B. Franzini, a Caltech alumnus, class of '42.