

Wave action, wave protection devices, such as breakwaters, bars, for shore protection and channel regulation are fully taken up. Chapters on quays and landing places are very complete and well illustrated.

The chapter on wet and dry docks is deserving of special mention for its completeness in such small compass. Although this chapter is the largest of the six in the new section, covering as it does 27 pages, there is enough information contained in it to enable an engineer who is at all familiar with dock work, to design and construct almost any form of wet or dry dock. The illustrations are well chosen and easily understood.

Floating and sliding caissons and other special forms of steel constructed caissons for entrance gates are illustrated, but no attempt is made to go into the question of design. Evidently the author considers such work as being out of the scope of a civil engineer's pocket book. The design of floating dry docks is taken up with some detail and some cost data is added.

This pocket book, in its new form with the many minor changes, and additions which make the individual sections more complete, and the addition of the new section on harbor and river works, will undoubtedly find favor with a great many engineers who have not before found such a work to be so complete and covering nearly all their requirements.

**The Web of Steel.** By Cyrus Townsend Brady and Cyrus Townsend Brady, Jr. Published by Fleming H. Revell Co., New York.

It is seldom that a novel makes a special appeal to the engineering profession. This is the case, however, in "The Web of Steel," just published. It is a good romance, with an engineering flavor, and written by Cyrus Townsend Brady and Cyrus Townsend Brady, Jr. The father has several other novels to his credit and the son is a civil engineer. The preface states that the volume is a book for men, about men, and written by men. It has all the good points of a popular novel, and the writers say that whatever may be said of their fiction, they "rest confident in the engineering." As "no scientific course is necessary for the comprehension of the story," this interesting volume will be read not only by engineers, but also by their ladies. The story is divided into four parts under the following headings: I., Bridge; II., C-10-R; III., Dam; IV., Spillway.

The novel is a well-written narrative, and will hold the reader until the closing page. "The Web of Steel," by C. T. Brady and C. T. Brady, Jr. Published by Fleming H. Revell Company, New York.

**Practical Design of Steel-Framed Sheds.** By A. S. Spencer. Constable and Co., London, Eng. (Reviewed by A. J. MacDougall, Mechanical Engineer, Toronto Power Co.).

In the first chapters of this book, after analyzing the effect of wind stresses, standard designs of roof trusses for sheds and the stresses in the various members are given. The book is then concluded with descriptions of external coverings and attachments for buildings.

This book is recommended to the engineer who lacks the time to make the calculations and design his own trusses, but is not recommended to those who, lacking knowledge of structural calculations, would place on their structure a ready-made design of truss. The reviewer is of the opinion it will pay in almost all cases to have a competent structural engineer design the structural steel.

**Air-Craft in War and Peace.** By Wm. A. Robson. Published by Macmillan Company of Canada. Price, 75 cents.

This is a new book, just issued, on this all-absorbing topic, and is written in plain, non-technical language. It points out with wonderful clearness the important part that air-craft has come to play as weapons of war. The author attempts to lay before the general public some of the outstanding points that have been brought to the surface as the result of the use of air-craft in the present war. The book is well illustrated and exceedingly readable, and should be of great interest to those who are at all interested in the subject. It contains 176  $5 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ -in. pages, bound in cloth, and will, no doubt, form a welcome addition to literature of the science.

**Parks and Park Engineering.** By Wm. T. Lyle, A.M. Am.Soc.C.E. Published by John Wiley and Sons (Inc.), New York. 129 pages, 38 half-tones,  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 9$  ins. Price, \$1.25 net. (Reviewed by R. B. Evans, A.M.Can.Soc.C.E., Parks Engineer, City Hall, Toronto.)

In reviewing a work on Parks and Park Engineering one must be broad enough to admit that Engineering is a large subject. The author has compiled an interesting book on this subject, introduces several good points on carrying out grading and drainage, and is not afraid to help the student who wants to know the correct grade for a sewer.

He touches on one or two personalities with whom the ordinary reader might or might not be familiar, and does not go deeply into the important subject of roadways. The work, however, gives some results of the latest practices in road surfacing with oils, etc., suitable for the ever-increasing automobile traffic, and an account of some modern boulevard pavements.

Some ideas re the acquisition of parks would be excellent reading for those interested in the improvement of cities and towns.

The methods of survey are up-to-date and similar to those in use in Canada.

Chapter III., on Design, touches on some large city improvement work, as well as some detail of taking care of parks and roadways.

The importance of getting rid of water as quickly as possible by various methods is emphasized, but none too strongly, as this, to the writer, is one of the most important items in engineering work.

The last chapter, on Construction, shows how one can make a smooth road for others to travel, which is the work of the conscientious engineer, no matter what particular line he may be following.

**General Specifications for Concrete Bridges.** By Wilbur J. Watson, Mem.Am.Soc.S.E. Third edition. Published by the McGraw-Hill Book Co. (Inc.), New York. 70 pages,  $8 \times 11$  ins., paper. Price, \$1.00. (Reviewed by E. M. Proctor, Department of Bridges, City Hall, Toronto.)

These specifications, by the well-known author of "Concrete Specifications," are brought up to date in this, the third edition. The sections on Surface Finishing, Waterproofing and Quality of Materials have been rewritten. It is in these three branches of the subject that the greatest advancement has been made in late years. Many other radical changes have also been made throughout the book.