

tion. The presentation is simple and clear though somewhat brief. Certainly, the reader with some knowledge of computers would find this text an excellent preparation for the appreciation of the contents of the Revised Report on ALGOL.

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Principles of Astrometry (With Special Emphasis on Long-Focus Photographic Astrometry), by Peter van de Kamp. W.H. Freeman and Company, 1967. \$6.50.

This textbook is an introduction to the branch of Astronomy which is concerned with the measurement of stellar positions and motions. The first part of the book contains a survey of spherical trigonometry and celestial coordinate systems, and then discusses the effects of refraction, precession, stellar parallax, aberration, solar motion and galactic rotation. The second part deals with the techniques involved in photography with a long-focus refractor, measurement of the plates and reduction of the measurements. Special attention is given to the observations of binary stars and the determination of their orbits from which valuable information on stellar masses can be derived. Of interest also is the discussion of the determination of orbits for unseen companions of low mass, such as possible planets.

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