

## BOOK REVIEW — BUCHBESPRECHUNG

### IMRE PÁL: Descriptive Geometry Interpreted by Stereoscopic Views

Műszaki Kiadó, Budapest 1959, 192 pp. (In Hungarian)

It is known that in line with technical advance the number of those who require some knowledge of descriptive geometry is steadily growing. Further it is also a common knowledge that mastering descriptive geometry is not to be done without highly developed space-perception and abstracting ability. The difficulties arising from learning descriptive geometry are eliminated in this book by stereoscopic anaglyphic method.

Viewing through the enclosed bicolour spectacles the 266 bicolour figures emerge out of the plane of the paper into space and give the impression of the object being three dimensional. In this way the reader gets as rich collections of models which the best equipped educational institutes rarely possess.

The use of the models — respectively models substituting stereoscopic figures facilitate greatly the understanding and grasp of spatial relations. The anaglyphic figures give a simplified version of the forms; the surface is made up from its edges, contour lines and segments in the same way as in the drawings. In this way the reader is enabled to see spatial forms constructed from lines which fact justifies the educational use of this method. The author cleverly avails himself of the possibilities afforded by anaglyphic figures. The textual part of the work — including even the 228 black figures — hardly covers 90 pages. Within the frame of other subjects the author deals comprehensively the fundamental methods of Monge's representation and of mapdrawing.

The work does not exceed the domain of

simple geometrical knowledge taught at multilateral schools, and even those can make good use of it who do not wish to enter more thoroughly into the matter but just want to learn reproduction and plan reading in connection with technical drawing. This is greatly facilitated by a number of practical examples comprised in the theoretical part but the book also embraces the subject-matter of university instruction. The reader may find the intersection of curved surfaces, as well as the mapdrawing of geometrical problems occurring in mining. Thus the work can well raise the interest of the university students and even of the experts of descriptive geometry.

In view of the vast subject-matter and the comparatively limited extent, the author was compelled to use an extremely concise wording, without dwelling on the documentation of all his statements. Still, the conciseness is not disturbing, for what the book has to say is better explained by the anaglyphic figures than it would be by any verbose description.

The amazingly rich material of figures is designed with great care, and good reproduction makes all the figures self-explanatory. As a rule, the anaglyphic and black figures show the subjects on basis of an identical reproduction, and thus on the anaglyphic figures one can follow the formation of the drawing of descriptive geometry.

The clever arrangement of the book makes its use very handy. On the odd-numbered pages the unbroken text makes one acquainted with the theoretical subject-

matter, and on the even-numbered pages one finds the corresponding illustrations. Whenever we open the book, we find the text together with the illustrations pertaining to it.

The Hungarian edition of the work is

already out; the Russian, German and English edition will be published soon. The fine printing of the figures and the whole presentation of the book is worthy of its rich content.

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