

La Méthode du Chemin Critique.

A. KAUFMANN and G. DESBAZEILLE.

Dunod, Paris, 1964. x + 170 pp. 24 NF.

This book is divided into four chapters, the first of which deals with the theory of graphs at the theoretical level, including manipulation of the corresponding matrices. The authors put some emphasis on determining the "level" of a graph, and it may be that parameters of this sort will prove useful in classifying networks according to their size and complexity. The second chapter describes the critical path method, and one of its interesting points is that it shows the parallel development of an orthodox arrow diagram and one of the Roy type. A simple practical example from the field of construction is included. The third chapter is a brief restatement of the generalization of the PERT method due to Eisner, enhanced by an illustrative example of a mining operation. The final chapter deals with the optimization of a network by cost and there are three appendices. These deal respectively with the Beta distribution, the mean value of a critical path, and the subdivision of operations.

The main interest of the book will be to French readers for whom it collects together conveniently some of the scattered literature. Readers on this side of the Channel may find it interesting in the emphasis which it puts on the purely mathematical approach.

ALBERT BATTERSBY

THE review of J. W. NIXON's *Glossary of Terms in Official Statistics* (p. 123 in the March 1965 issue) was attributed to J. C. TANNER. We apologize to the reviewer, A. P. MCANALLY, for the error.