

### *Book Selection*

There is a need for a book treating warehousing in all its aspects as a single analysable and controllable system. From the contents list, this might have been it; reading the book one came to the regrettable conclusion that it was not.

E. KAY

#### **Integrated Manufacturing Systems.**

E. L. MARTINO.

*McGraw-Hill, New York, 1972. xi+160 pp. \$11.95.*

Written for the practical man, these well-produced 160 pages (including a 5-page index) offer non-numerate managers a primer on production/distribution co-ordination as a unified, balanced system. Helped by more than 100 diagrams and tables, the text works through simple "toy" examples in small steps (comparable to programmed learning methodology) to arrive at general "How to do it" lists of procedures. Design of flow diagrams, and "Gozinto" charts, construction of matrices and their practical use are demonstrated; elementary treatment of forecasting methods, safety stock provision and scheduling adds a statistical flavour within bounds set by mathematical simplicity.

The "glimpses of the obvious" which lard the text, and are likely to put off informed readers, may not be altogether out of place in what is plainly "Do It Yourself" literature.

It is comforting, somehow, that the U.S.A., which has exported so many highly sophisticated management techniques for worldwide use, has nonetheless a market for simple treatises of this kind. *Integrated Manufacturing* follows three other Martino books in this series, dealing with network planning and control, management information systems and "dynamic costing", respectively, but it is not a book for, nor is it aimed at, the OR professional.

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