BOOK REVIEWS

techniques, diaphragm size, and the brightness of the night sky. The final chapter, directed mainly at advanced amateurs, suggests possible programs (photoelectric sequences, flare stars, intrinsic and eclipsing binaries, and solar system objects).

Eleven appendices comprise nearly one-third of this book. In addition to the contents noted above, they contain lists of stars for the measurement of first- and second-order UBV extinction coefficients, UBV standard field stars, and UBV standards in the Pleiades, Praesepe, and IC 4665 clusters (including finding photographs). Appendix J deals with the standard astrophysical quantities intensity, flux, and luminosity, treats blackbody radiation, and covers atmospheric extinction and photometric transformation equations.

What slips there are in Astronomical Photometry are few and minor. One might conclude from the discussion in Chapter 2 that the size of the (U-B) index is determined only by the Balmer discontinuity. A more explicit warning might have been given about protecting the photomultiplier when determining the dead-time correction (Chapter 4). More emphasis should be placed on the accurate determination of the time of an integration (Chapter 5). These are minor points that do not detract from the high quality of this book.

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This paperback reproduces typewritten papers presented at the first Colloquium of the French Committee for the Space Telescope, held in Toulouse on 22–24 April, 1980, shortly before the inauguration of the Pic-du-Midi 2-m telescope. The front cover ominously displays a glaring spelling mistake in the book’s title and a photograph of M31 printed with North down. The editor(s), whose name(s) appear nowhere, and the publisher were also remiss in only partly disclosing their identities on the second last page of this publication. The texts of the camera-ready papers are however quite generally free of editing errors.

The Colloquium was attended by nearly 100 participants, which is a fair majority of all French astronomers working in optical astronomy, and 38 papers dealing with a variety of topics in galactic and extragalactic astronomy and with a number of astronomical techniques were presented. Most of the papers have, at best, a tenuous relation with the Space Telescope except, of course, for occasional reference to the need for better angular resolution. It is surprising, in particular, to find so little discussion of far-UV imagery and spectroscopy. Overviews of the characteristics of ST’s Faint Object Camera and Wide Field/Planetary Camera, and a general comparison of Space Telescope with large ground-based telescopes, both by Courtes, are among the few papers directly addressing the topic of the Space Telescope itself.

Much is said about the benefits to be reaped from ST’s superior spatial resolution. It is interesting to note that at the time of the Colloquium, the participants generally adopted a benchmark of one arc second as the best normally achieved by large ground-based telescopes. Experience at some of the best sites in the world, notably on Mauna