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Read Books, United Kingdom, 2008. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 216 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.MECHANICS by WILLIAM FOGG. Originally published in 1937. PREFACE; Mechanics is a natural science, and like any natural science requires for its comprehension the observation and knowledge of a vast fund of individual cases. And so the solution of problems is of prime importance throughout all the study of this subject. But Mechanics is not an empirical subject in the sense in which physics and chemistry, when dealing with the border region of the human knowledge of the day are empirical. The latter take cognizance of a great number of isolated facts, which it is not as yet possible to arrange under a few laws, or postulates. The laws of Mechanics, like the laws of Geometry, so far as first approximations go the laws that explain the motion of the golf ball or the gyroscope or the skidding automobile, and which make possible the calculation of lunar tables and the prediction of eclipses these laws are known, and will be as new and important two thousand years hence, as in the recent past of science when first they emerged into the light of day. Here, then, is the problem of training the student in Mechanics to provide him with a vast fund of case material and to develop in him the habits of thought which refer a new problem back to the few fundamental laws of the subject. The physicist is keenly alive to the first requirement and tries to meet it both by simple laboratory experiments and by problems in the part of a general course on physics which is especially devoted to Mechanics. The interest of the mathematician too often begins with virtual velocities...



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