

are relegated to the last few pages and the numbers of Bernoulli and Stirling are not mentioned. For the mathematician the main interest of this book will be that it affords an easily accessible view of some of the recent applications of mathematics to the social sciences.

L. Moser, University of Alberta

Selections from Modern Abstract Algebra by Richard V. Andree. Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1958. 213 pages. \$6.80.

Contents by chapters are: Number Theory and Proof; Equivalence and Congruence; Boolean Algebra; Groups; Matrices; Linear Systems; Determinants; Fields, Rings and Ideals; More Matrix Theory.

The aim of this book is to introduce the undergraduate mathematics major to some of the abstract thinking required in higher mathematics and to stimulate his appetite for more. It well succeeds in these objects for it is a most fascinating and stimulating treatment. Noteworthy features are the abundance of ingenious and well chosen problems in every chapter, the references and suggestions for further study, the flexibility with which it can be read and the many indications where various topics are applied in the social and exact sciences. An outstanding feature of the book is the care with which fundamental concepts are explained and developed.

The typography is clear and large and every page is a delight to read. In short, the book is interestingly written and beautifully produced.

Herbert Tate, McGill University

Analytical Conics by Barry Spain. International series of Monographs in Pure and Applied Mathematics, Pergamon Press, New York, 1957. 145 pages. \$5.25.

Analytical Conics is an "English" textbook with a few important differences. One of these is an eleven page appendix containing a key to most of the difficult problems. Anyone who

has worked his way through English mathematical problems, will realize the value of such an appendix to the students.

I found the book not only an excellent introduction to analytic geometry, but an ideal preparation for a study of analytic projective geometry. In this connection, I should mention that in the latter half of the book, homogeneous coordinates, line coordinates, circular points at infinity, cross ratio, and homographic correspondences are all defined and developed. The author also deals with the principle of duality; pencils of lines and conics; ranges of points; polars; the triangle of reference; the quadrangle; and many other basic ideas in projective geometry.

The first half of the book consists of a standard exposition of analytic geometry but done in much more subtle manner and with more finesse than one finds in the average American text. As a challenging introduction to analytic geometry, I would recommend this book to an honours mathematics under-graduate class.

J. C. Hayes, Collège Militaire
Royal de Saint-Jean

Sur les Fonctions Méromorphes et les Fonctions Algébroides.
(Extensions d'un Théorème de M.R. Nevanlinna.) Par King-Lai Hiong. Mémorial des Sciences Mathématiques. CXXXIX, Gauthier-Villars, Paris, 1957. 104 pages.

A few words of advice for the prospective reader: If you recognize the following inequality relating to a meromorphic function f ,

$$m(r, f'/f) < 16 + \log^+ \log^+(1/f(0)) + \log(1/\rho) \\ + 2 \log(\rho/r) + 3 \log[\rho/(\rho-r)] + 4 \log^+ T(\rho, f)$$

and are familiar with the functions m and T , you are undoubtedly qualified to proceed at once with the reading of this volume. If not, as was the case with the reviewer, you should first consult one or more of the references listed in the bibliography as you will not find in this book definitions of the three fundamental functions involved, m , T and N .