

In Chapter X (pages 109–126) on the solution of numerical equations emphasis is put upon the method of Newton on account of its several advantages; but an appropriate treatment is also given of other methods.

Chapter XI (pages 127–149), which is independent of the earlier chapters, contains an easy introduction to determinants and their application to the solution of systems of linear equations.

Finally, Chapter XII (pages 150–166) is devoted to the theory of resultants and discriminants.

The reviewer believes that this book will be found highly satisfactory and that it will have wide use.

R. D. CARMICHAEL.

*The Teaching of Geometry.* By DAVID EUGENE SMITH. Ginn and Company, 1911. v + 339 pp.

THE Teaching of Geometry is a good book. It is "worth the paper it is printed on," which can not be said of some books and it is worth a great deal more, which can be said of comparatively few books. The preface puts the reader in the spirit of the text immediately. The table of contents tells as completely as one page can what is contained in the three hundred and thirty. The first chapter contains a discussion of "questions at issue" in mathematical pedagogy. The reader is given both opportunity and encouragement to range himself on one side or other of these questions, but not without an understanding of what they mean. The next five chapters include some reasons for studying geometry, a brief history of the development of the subject giving necessarily much prominence to Euclid's part in this development and to efforts at improving or modifying his treatment of the subject. The remainder of the book takes up some of the details of classroom work, but no cut and dried rules are given. The author's own words describe the spirit of this text quite excellently: "Get a subject that is worth teaching and then make every minute of it interesting."

J. V. MCKELVEY.

*A History of Japanese Mathematics.* By DAVID EUGENE SMITH and YOSHIO MIKAMI. Chicago, The Open Court Publishing Company, 1914. v + 288 pp.

THE history of Japanese mathematics as given by Smith and Mikami seems to furnish a parallel in some respects to