

Naturally, such a treatment leads to a sharp conflict with the school of "logisticians" and enthusiasts of "axiomatics." This phase of the great problem is considered in the concluding chapter: axiomatics in geometry. It seems to me of great importance and actuality and I should like to advise every young American mathematician to read carefully this clear cut presentation of the issue.

On the tendency to reduce all and everything in mathematics to axiomatics the author has this to say:

"Mit Uebertreibungen dieser Art, die eine etwa als Axiomasis zu bezeichnende wissenschaftliche Modekrankheit darstellen, haben wir es jedoch nicht zu tun. Man muss sie austoben lassen: Gleich allen Moden werden sie von selbst aufhören."

Concerning the comparative value of productive mathematical activities Study makes the following statement:

"Auf die Resultate kommt es vor Allem an, und in zweiter Linie erst steht die Methode für Den, der nicht nur mathematische Philosophie oder philosophische Mathematik treiben, sondern sich schöpferisch betätigen will."

The critical remarks concerning Poincaré's scientific activity, so far as they are of a personal nature, might have been omitted. Poincaré was precisely of the type of mathematicians that were after results; with him the method was of secondary importance.

As a whole, the reading of the book with its vigorous and aggressive style is very refreshing, and nobody that intends to be well informed on the foundations of mathematics should fail to familiarize himself with its contents.

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*Contribution à l'Étude des Courbes convexes fermées et de certaines Courbes qui s'y rattachent.* Par CHARLES JORDAN et RAYMOND FIEDLER. Paris, A. Hermann et Fils, 1912. 77 pp.

As the authors point out, this monograph is an auxiliary of their investigations in geometric probabilities and treats of closed convex curves and some associates that may be conveniently established by the method of tangential polar coordinates.

Such a system in a plane may be defined as follows:

Choose a point as the pole and a straight line through it,