*Die mathematischen Grundlagen der Variations- und Vererbungs-
lehre.*   Von P. RIEBESELL.   Leipzig, B. G. Teubner, 1916.
45 pp.

THIS little book is volume 34 of the Mathematische Biblio-
thek, published under the editorship of Lietzmann and
Witting.   It is doubtless intended for the biological, rather
than for the mathematical public, although its title might lead
one to expect a somewhat more fundamental analysis of the
larger mathematical questions which arise in modern biological
research.   The first 32 pages are devoted to an exposition of
the elements of the theory of probabilities and of the problems
connected with the determination of a function that will
represent a given distribution of statistical data.   To make
the task of reading the book as easy as possible for the non-
mathematical reader, the theory is followed step by step by
numerical examples.   In the last 9 pages there is found a
discussion of some of the biological questions in which the
mathematical problems play a rôle.   Probably the greatest
use that one may expect from a book like this would come if
it should stimulate some mathematician to acquaint himself
further with the mathematical problems that arise in bio-
logical theory or if it should lead a biologist to more extended
mathematical studies.   If two sciences are to cooperate effec-
tively, there must be trained "agents de liaison," who will
make possible a partial overlapping of the spheres of interest.

ARNOLD DRESDEN.

Methoden zur Lösung geometrischer Aufgaben.   Von B. KERST.
(Mathematische Bibliothek herausgegeben von W. Lietz-
mann und A. Witting, Band 26.)   Leipzig, Teubner, 1916.
12mo.   2 + 47 pages.   Paper, price M.0.80.

AMONG the scores of books, pamphlets and articles which have
been written concerning methods of solving problems of ele-
mentary synthetic geometry, the work of the late Julius Peter-
sen, the Dane, is easily the best by reason of its elegant expo-
sition, comprehensiveness, and suggestiveness.   The first edition
was published in 1866;* but the enlarged second edition, of
which English and German translations were published in the
same year, 1879, is the one whose contents are most familiar.†

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* Methoder og Theorier til Løsning af geometriske Konstruktions-
opgaver, anvendte paa c. 300 Opgaver.   Kjøbenhavn, 1866.   4 + 85 pp.
+ 1 pl.
   † There have been at least 18 editions of this remarkable work: 6 in