

*Aufgabensammlung zur Funktionentheorie.* By Konrad Knopp. Volume II: *Aufgaben zur höheren Funktionentheorie.* Sammlung Göschen, No. 878. Berlin and Leipzig, Walter de Gruyter, 1928. 143 pp.

This little book is the continuation of Volume I (*Aufgaben zur elementaren Funktionentheorie*, No. 877) which appeared under the same title in 1923. Like all other books published by Dr. Knopp, large as well as small ones, the present volume is a new contribution, small, but significant, to the widely known reputation of its author as an excellent scholar and talented teacher. The difficult task of selecting from the immense material of the modern theory of functions the problems just within the reach of a beginner is here masterfully accomplished. A student who will go faithfully through 183 problems of Vol. I and 187 problems of Vol. II will almost imperceptibly find himself in possession of a technique which is absolutely necessary for starting an advanced study; at the same time, he will acquire general information as to the present situation of the subject. He will find problems (of different grades of difficulty) on power- and Laurent-series, on singular points of analytic functions and calculus of residues, on factorization and partial fraction expansion of entire and meromorphic functions, on simple and double periodic functions, on analytic continuation and behavior of power series on their circles of convergence, on Riemann surfaces and conformal transformations. The solutions which follow the problems are condensed enough to be valuable even to students who use them. It is the reviewer's opinion that the two volumes of the *Aufgabensammlung* together with the two volumes of Knopp's *Funktionentheorie* (Sammlung Göschen, Nos. 668, 703) can be successfully used in this country in teaching the first course of the theory of functions of a complex variable.

J. D. TAMARKIN

*L'Évolution des Idées Géométriques dans la Pensée Grecque: Point, Ligne, Surface.* By Federigo Enriques. Translated by Maurice Solovine. Paris, Gauthier-Villars, 1927.

This short treatise contains in outline the history of ancient geometry as a basis for an exposition of the philosophy of Greek geometry and the relation of ancient to modern thought. The merit of this tract lies in the exhibition of the philosophic movement. The historic part reveals certain omissions which would have necessitated the re-phrasing of some parts of the discussion relating to the evolution of the logic of geometry. Thus, in outlining Egyptian geometry, the author fails to point to the fact which has become evident in recent years that early Egyptian writers had advanced further than was formerly supposed and had reached results which as far as Greek testimony indicates, were not transmitted to ancient Greece. Thus the Greeks did not know of the remarkable approximation to the area of the circle, contained in the Rhind papyrus. More striking yet, is the content of another Egyptian papyrus (the Moscow papyrus) presumably of equal antiquity, which, like a flash of lightning in the darkness, momentarily illumines the obscure past. It contains the correct computation of the volume of the frustrum of a square pyramid. Had Enriques had in mind