

The first part ends with the transcendental theory along the line of Picard's *Traité d'Analyse*, with some asides on real curves and questions of reducibility of abelian integrals, in which direction the author has also made important contributions.

We now come to the Anhang. The volume was ready in August, 1914. In the years that followed, the author, part of the time in active military service, was pursuing investigations on algebraic curves and these with some minor corrections form the subject-matter of the Anhang, which occupies the latter fourth of the work. In form it differs considerably from the rest and in ordinary times we should have expressed the wish to have it more completely merged with the rest, but no doubt this would have greatly delayed publication, and under the circumstances we feel thankful to have it as it is.

The Anhang is certainly the most interesting part of the work for the student of this subject, the one which he will want to read first. Greater preparation is required to read it than for the rest. The material, as interesting as it is new, consists primarily in a series of contributions to our very meager knowledge on families of algebraic curves with singularities assigned in type but not in position. A typical as well as interesting result is this: The manifold of all irreducible curves of given order and genus is itself irreducible. His results along this line lead the author to the first algebraic-geometric proof ever given of Riemann's existence theorem, and also to a new attack on the classification of curves in any space.

May this suffice to whet the reader's appetite and increase his desire to read Severi. He will not repent.

S. LEFSCHETZ.

*Theoretical Mechanics. An Introductory Treatise on the Principles of Dynamics with Applications and Numerous Examples.* By A. E. H. Love. Third Edition. Cambridge, University Press, 1921. xv + 310 pp.

The first edition of Love's *Mechanics* was published in 1897 and was reviewed in this BULLETIN in April, 1898. The second edition, published in 1906, differed from the first in that the material had been rearranged and rewritten, although the general content remained unaltered. The present edition is practically the same as the second, the only additions being a note on *The moment of the kinetic reaction of a particle about a moving axis*, a paragraph on *Force of simple harmonic type*, and a paragraph on *Effect of damping on forced oscillation*. The number of miscellaneous examples has been reduced, although the collection is still sufficiently large to satisfy the demands of the most ardent problems enthusiast.

As the first and second editions have been familiar to students of mechanics for so many years, no further comment seems necessary.

PETER FIELD.

*Zur Theorie der Triaden*, von Almar Naess. Kristiania, Grondahl & Sons, 1921. 136 pp.

This paper of 136 pages forms Nr. 6, Serie 1, of NORSK MATEMATISK