

tions, numerical work, perturbation procedures, etc., are acceptable only as incidental illustration in a paper devoted to sound mathematical theory. . . . A high expository level is desired, and papers written in an excessively condensed or crabbed style will not be printed." The expressed scope of the journal is thus far wider than its title seems to imply. On the other hand, in practice it is, at least so far, narrower than its editors claim. The twenty papers in this volume are about either physical problems or mathematical problems suggested by physical problems; but they differ markedly from the contents of most journals devoted to applied mathematics in that they contain precisely stated and serious mathematical theorems which are proved. The greater number deal in one way or another with problems in differential equations, whether or not disguised (as more than half are) as mechanics of continua. Analysis unmotivated by physical situations has not yet made its appearance in this volume.

The editors have insisted on a high stylistic and typographical level, in contrast to most present-day editors, who seem to feel that content (even if obscured by stylistic deficiencies) is more important than style. Doubtless this insistence on elegance and clarity has reduced the number of papers which could be published in this volume, but since mathematics is hardly dying of inanition at the present time (as witness the swollen girth of *Mathematical Reviews*), it is gratifying to see attention paid to form as well as to content.

It is hardly necessary to remark that this will be an essential journal for any mathematical library with any pretensions to completeness.

R. P. BOAS, JR.

BRIEF MENTION

Proceedings of the Second Berkeley Symposium on Mathematical Statistics and Probability, Held at the Statistical Laboratory, Department of Mathematics, University of California, July 31–August 12, 1950. Ed. by J. Neyman. Berkeley and Los Angeles, University of California Press, 1951. 10+666 pp. \$11.00.

The Proceedings of the First Symposium were published in 1947 and reviewed in this Bulletin, vol. 56, p. 267. This volume contains 46 papers by 52 authors, representing 8 categories: mathematical statistics, probability, astronomy, biometry, econometrics, physics, traffic engineering, and wave analysis.