

rather than of this particular volume which is, as far as the genre allows, well presented.

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Partial Differential Equations and Continuum Mechanics.

Proceedings of an International Conference Conducted by the Mathematics Research Center at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, June 7-15, 1960, edited by Rudolph Langer. Madison, The University of Wisconsin Press, 1961. xv + 397 pages. \$5.00.

This is a collection of nineteen lectures which were delivered at the Conference and reproduction of 45 abstracts of papers presented at this occasion. The authors of the 19 lectures are S. Agmon, J. M. Burgers, T. M. Cherry, G. Fichera, L. Hörmander, I. Imai, J. Kampé de Fériet, J. Leray, H. Lewy, C. B. Morrey Jr., J. Moser, C. Müller, K. Nickel, A. Pleijel, D. P. Riabouchinsky, B. R. Seth, R. Stoneley, F. G. Tricomi, A. Weinstein.

H. S.

Fundamentals of Galois Theory, by M. M. Postnikov (translated from the Russian). Russian Tracts on Advanced Mathematics and Physics, Volume VIII. Gordon and Breach, New York, 1962. iii + 142 pages. U. S. \$8.00.

This is a translation of an elementary Russian text containing an introduction to Galois theory, together with the necessary group theory. The usual theory of algebraic extensions is developed for subfields of the complex field, and the Galois correspondence is established. The question of the solvability of equations by radicals is treated for equations over the rational field and then is extended to the general equation over an arbitrary field of characteristic zero. In treating the general equation over an arbitrary field, it is shown that a field of rational functions possesses an algebraic closure, following Ostrowski, by means of formal power series. There are no exercises.

The book is Volume VIII of a series "Russian Tracts on Advanced Mathematics and Physics" put out by a New York publisher. Although this publisher's name is the only one to appear on the dust jacket, on opening the book one finds that it has, in fact, been produced and published in India by the Hindustan Publishing Company. \*

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\* Editor's Note: Another translation of the book by Postnikov has just been published by P. Noordhoff, Publisher, Groningen (Holland); Price: \$2.25. (Translator: L. F. Boron) Gordon and Breach have stated in a letter that they have cancelled their arrangements with the Hindustan Publishing Company. H. S.

The printing is legible with numerous misprints. The paper is poor and the binding is cheap.

This book has many defects and no virtues. The Russian text is a reasonable account of the subject; but the translation is pitiful, or comic, according to one's point of view, having been made by an unidentified translator who appears to know no algebra, little English and, one suspects, less Russian; there is much unusual notation, for example, the degree of an algebraic extension is called "power", the alternating group is referred to as the "group with variable signs", and a well-known group with four elements is named the "Kleinov group". Moreover, the price seems high for such a short book.

In short, this translation cannot be recommended.

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