

The other two groups deal with a variety of plane situations: measures of approximation of a convex set by another convex set of some given class (symmetric sets, sets of constant width etc.), extremal properties of triangles inscribed in and circumscribed about convex sets, properties of curves of constant width, and so on.

Although the general level and workmanship are inferior to those of the author's Cambridge Tract on convexity, the present collection contains some interesting and important things and will be of interest to the specialist.

Z. A. Melzak, McGill University

Fallacies in Mathematics, by E.A. Maxwell, Cambridge University Press, Macmillan Company of Canada Ltd. \$2.75.

In this book the author, a Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge, is acquainting his readers (College and High School teachers as well as interested pupils) in an often amusing and always interesting way with the fallacies a mathematician is apt to meet in the fields of elementary geometry, algebra and trigonometry and calculus. He distinguishes between mistakes (not discussed in the book), howlers and fallacies in the proper sense like this gem: $1 = \sqrt{1} = \sqrt{(-1)(-1)} = \sqrt{-1} \sqrt{-1} = i \cdot i = -1$.

The first 10 serious chapters presenting a choice selection of fallacies in each of the fields with subsequent detailed discussion are followed by a chapter on miscellaneous howlers, e.g., the following. Solve $(x+3)(2-x) = 4$. Answer: Either $x + 3 = 4$. . . $x = 1$ or $2 - x = 4$. . . $x = -2$, correct. The book is most instructive for any mathematics teacher.

Hans Zassenhaus, California Institute of Technology

Some Aspects of Analysis and Probability, by Irving Kaplansky, Marshall Hall Jr., Edwin Hewitt and Robert Fortet. Surveys in Applied Mathematics IV. John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1958. 243 pages. \$9.00.

This volume contains survey articles on four branches of mathematics, usually not considered as "applied"; "applicable" would be a more fitting term, although the subjects are treated not entirely from this point of view. Kaplansky's article on Functional Analysis (pp. 3-34, with a bibliography of 113 references) will be welcome as it gives an integrated account including the extensive work done in the modern Russian schools. The article on Combinatorial Analysis by M. Hall (pp. 37-104, with a bibliography of 59 references) deals with the classical