

*Annuaire des Mathématiciens*, 1901–1902 ; publié sous la direction de MM. C.-A. LAISANT, AD. BUHL. Paris, C. Naud, 1901. 8vo. xxiv + 469 pp.

THE idea of publishing an annual list of those interested in mathematics was brought forward with much earnestness by Professor F. Rudio at the first international congress of mathematicians at Zurich in 1897. The matter was not taken up, however, until two years later, when M. Laisant, recognizing the favorable opportunity afforded by the international congress to be held at Paris, presented the proposition to M. Naud, the publisher. The plan contemplated an alphabetic list of living mathematicians, with their leading titles, the mathematical societies to which they belong, and their addresses. For the purposes of the compilation a mathematician was defined as a person belonging to one of the following groups : (1) Members of mathematical societies, or of mathematical sections of general scientific societies ; (2) authors of mathematical works of an original nature ; (3) those who teach mathematics as their special department of work. As a result of the labors of the compilers, more than six thousand names appear in the register.

The work also contains lists of mathematical societies, of associations having mathematical sections, and of the journals devoted to this science. A brief necrology of mathematicians, covering the years 1900 and 1901, is made the more valuable by an added biography of Hermite. Unfortunately all dates are omitted in the necrology, a fault which will probably be remedied in future editions. The work closes with a half dozen "notices scientifiques," mostly foreign to the subject in hand :—By Paul Appell : "Sur le principe de la moindre contrainte de Gauss" :—By J. Petersen : "Les 36 officiers" :—By A. G. Greenhill : "Les fonctions elliptiques au point de vue de leurs applications." :—By Ch. Méray : "La langue internationale auxiliaire *Espéranto* et la littérature scientifique." :—By P. H. Schoute : "Le nombre des points, des droites, des plans, etc., contenus dans un hyperespace linéaire." :—By P. H. Schoute : "La *Revue semestrielle des publications mathématiques*."

The general plan of the work is very commendable. Such a publication puts scientific workers more closely in touch with one another, and makes the mathematical world seem more real. It places at the student's hand a mass of information