Henri Poincaré. Biographie, Bibliographie analytique des Ecrits. Par ERNEST LEBON. Paris, Gauthier-Villars, 1909. viii + 80 pp.

THIS little volume is the first of a series which M. Lebon proposes to publish on the " Savants du Jour." The idea of giving to the public a biographical and bibliographical record concerning the various eminent scholars of the present day is novel and has much to recommend it. The reading of the present volume cannot but be an inspiration to the rising generation of mathematicians. The author, or more accurately the compiler (the book contains nothing from the pen of M. Lebon himself), has here brought together from various sources a series of articles and addresses relating to Poincaré. The contents are divided into seven sections relating respectively to biography, pure mathematics, analytic and celestial mechanics, mathematical physics, philosophy of science, necrology, and miscellaneous publications.

The section on Biography contains a part of the address delivered by M. Frédéric Masson, director of the Académie Française, at the time (January 28, 1909) when Poincaré was received as a member of the forty immortals. In fourteen pages we are given a comprehensive sketch of his life. Born at Nancy, April 29, 1854, he received his doctorate from the University of Paris in 1879. His rise to fame was meteoric. During the years 1879–1881 he published in the *Comptes Rendus* his epoch-making results on the uniformization of algebraic curves and the solution of linear differential equations which at the early age of 27 gave him a recognized position in the front rank of mathematicians. In 1885 he received from the Académie des Sciences the Prix Poncelet for the " ensemble de ses travaux mathématiques." The readers of the BULLETIN who wish to read in more detail of his life and work may be referred to a recent number of the *Popular Science Monthly* (September, 1909) which contains a translation of the address of M. Masson. This address is followed in the volume under review by a list covering four and a half pages of degrees, titles, prizes, membership in scientific bodies, etc.

The second Section is devoted to his work in pure mathematics. The text is an extract from the report by M. G. Rados on the Prix Bolyai (awarded to Poincaré by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, April 18, 1905). This is followed by a list of publications in pure mathematics containing 146