

conclusion that the existence of the simultaneous limit always insures the existence of the iterated limits. This conclusion is, in turn, involved in the proof of the theorem on the interchangeability of order of partial differentiation. (Fortunately, this does not invalidate the proof, but it makes desirable further elucidation of some of the steps.) Finally, it is stated, without proof, that the mere existence of f_{xy} and f_{yx} is sufficient to insure their equality; but counterexamples to this statement are known.

If it is desirable to use the intuitive idea of different modes of approach of the independent variable to its limit, the notion could easily be put on firm ground by giving the Heine sequence definition of a limit and stating its equivalence to the Cauchy definition. That this equivalence is not as simple as appears on the surface is well known, for the proof is impossible without the axiom of choice.

The chapters on infinite series, power series, and Fourier series appealed to the reviewer as very well done. The chapter on Fourier series contains among other topics a simple account of the Dirichlet conditions for convergence, Parseval's equation, the complex form of Fourier series, the asymptotic behavior of the coefficients, and the differentiation and integration of Fourier series.

P. W. KETCHUM

Geometria Descrittiva: Lezioni Redatte per Uso Degli Studenti. By Enea Bortolotti. Padua, Cedom, 1939. 715 pp., 500 figs. (Mimeographed.)

The term descriptive geometry has a wider meaning in Europe than it has with us; this is especially true in Italy where the study of geometry is an important part in the curriculum of all students of mathematics. Moreover, the school programs include work in determinants and matrices, projective and analytic geometry, and the elements of the calculus. Students of mathematics in the universities analogous to our undergraduates, devote all their time to the subject, hence are taking three courses simultaneously. By the time they reach descriptive geometry they will have had sufficient training to allow a teacher or an author to assume an acquaintance with many fundamental concepts.

Textbooks are ordinarily not employed at all; books written on a specific subject are for supplementary reading, usually voluntary, and not controlled. The students are thrown on their own at an early stage, and many of them show a decided precosity. The books are written for the better students who really want to learn about the subject treated.

The book under review is divided into four parts; most of the