

The German edition appeared in 1932 and was reviewed in this Bulletin vol. 39, p. 493. The translation was revised by von Neumann.

*Die Briefwechsel von Johann Bernoulli*. Ed. by the Naturforschende Gesellschaft in Basel. Vol. 1. Basel, Birkhäuser, 1955. 531 pp. 60 Swiss fr.

This magnificently produced volume is the first of 20 or more in which the Naturforschende Gesellschaft in Basel intends to publish the works and correspondence of the Bernoullis (and of the Basel mathematician Jakob Hermann (1678–1733)). The editor, O. Spiess, has provided this volume with everything that could be desired in the way of introductions, notes, and appendices. Vol. 1 contains correspondence between Johann Bernoulli and his brother Jakob, and some miscellaneous correspondence, but its greater, and by far the most interesting, part consists of Johann Bernoulli's correspondence with the Marquis De Lhospital (as he himself signed his name), who is remembered not only for his "rule" about indeterminate forms but as the author of the first calculus textbook. This correspondence, hitherto unpublished, indicates that the Marquis' originality has been much overestimated, and that even his famous rule should properly be attributed to Johann Bernoulli.

R. P. BOAS, JR.