

conclude that  $(y, e^{\delta/2}y)$  is a subinterval of  $(x, \rho x)$  since one only knows that  $x \leq y \leq \rho x$ .

Because this book is well conceived and gives a good picture of the elementary results, it is unfortunate that the execution suffers from the defects noted above. For the more mature student who reads with a skeptical eye, these defects are not of major importance but one cannot recommend this work to the unwary.

LOWELL SCHOENFELD

*Entire functions.* By R. P. Boas, Jr. (Pure and Applied Mathematics, vol. 5.) New York, Academic Press, 1954. 12+276 pp. \$6.00.

This is the first book which is devoted primarily to the theory of analytic functions of exponential type, and it gives a practically complete account of the subject. A function  $f(z)$  is said to be of exponential type when it is regular in an unbounded set, often the whole plane, and satisfies an inequality  $|f(z)| \leq Ae^{c|z|}$  on the set. Besides the theory of these functions the book contains a large chapter on entire functions in general, a chapter on the minimum modulus of an entire function, and a chapter on applications of functions of exponential type. The author and his publisher have rendered a great service by making so much material available in a single volume of moderate size and price.

One may regard Pólya, Valiron, Paley and Wiener, and S. Bernstein as the founders of the present theory of functions of exponential type. An unusually large number of mathematicians contributed to its further development (the bibliography lists close to 400 papers!). Of these, the author has probably contributed to more aspects of the theory than anybody else. Moreover, because of his past and present association with *Mathematical Reviews* the author was in a unique position to become thoroughly familiar with the extensive literature on the subject, including the Russian literature. In addition to these qualifications the author possesses considerable skill as an expositor, and he has thus produced a book which is both extremely useful and very readable.

The author's job has not been easy. Faced with an overwhelming amount of material and striving to be complete he had the tremendous task of ordering a veritable chaos. In the opinion of the reviewer he has succeeded exceedingly well. A good example is furnished by Theorem 8.4.16 for whose proof Levinson (1940) needed 14 pages. In the present book the theorem is just one result in an integrated theory and its proof takes only a little more than half a page. In this and other places the author's method of dealing with a