

Foundations and *Elements*. Only history will tell if one buries the other. Projective methods, which have for some geometers a particular attraction of their own, and which are of primary importance in some aspects of geometry, for instance the theory of heights, are of necessity relegated to the background in the local viewpoint of *Elements*, but again may be taken as starting point given a prejudicial approach to certain questions.

But even more important, theorems and conjectures still get discovered and tested on special examples, for instance elliptic curves or cubic forms over the rational numbers. And to handle these, the mathematician needs no great machinery, just elbow grease and imagination to uncover their secrets. Thus as in the past, there is enough stuff lying around to fit everyone's taste. Those whose taste allows them to swallow the *Elements*, however, will be richly rewarded.

S. LANG

Foundations of Modern Analysis. By J. Dieudonné. New York, Academic Press, 1960. 14+361 pp. \$8.50.

The purpose of this book is to provide the necessary elementary background for all branches of modern mathematics involving Analysis, and to train the students in the use of the axiomatic method. It emphasizes conceptual rather than computational aspects. Besides pointing out the economy of thought and notation which results from a general treatment, the author expresses his opinion that the students of today must, as soon as possible, get a thorough training in this abstract and axiomatic way of thinking if they are ever to understand what is currently going on in mathematical research. The students should build up this "intuition of the abstract", which is so essential in the mind of a modern mathematician. The angle from which the content of this volume is considered is different from the ones in traditional texts of the same level because the author does not just imitate the spirit of his predecessors but instead has a more independent pedagogical attitude. This book takes the students on a tour of some basic results, among them the Tietze-Urysohn extension theorem, the Stone-Weierstrass approximation theorem, the Ascoli compactness theorem, the Jordan curve theorem and the F. Riesz perturbation theory. These are some of the hills in the scenery which are surrounded by nice valleys connecting them. This course, to be taught during a single academic year, is *elementary* in the sense that it is intended for *first year* graduate students or exceptionally advanced undergraduates. Naturally, students must have a good work-