to the proof. The reviewer finds that kind of organization unattractive–not to say Teutonic. A lemma at the appropriate place would be more to the point.

It is natural to compare the Brown-Pearcy text with that of Reed and Simon, since both pairs of authors regard functional analysis as a way-station on the road to operator theory. There is, fortunately, little similarity in the approach of the two texts. Reed and Simon treat the subject like an unpleasant chore, and their text is definitely not suitable for a general functional analysis course. One of the really unpleasant features of the Reed-Simon book is that many of the proofs which are not completely straightforward are simply omitted. By contrast, Brown and Pearcy treat both the subject matter and the reader with appropriate respect.

Professors Brown and Pearcy write with a very nice pedagogical style. Without being prolix, they do enough chatting so a student can tell what's going on. They give an idea of how important a result is, for example, and why the other half of an "if and only if" theorem is somewhere else in the book. They do not assume that a student has all possible details at his fingertips (e.g. absolute convergence implies convergence in a Banach space–where this is used a reference is given to the problem where the proof is outlined). The authors talk about the equivalence class versus function dilemma in $L_p$ enough so the student will know that subsequent lack of precision is both deliberate and appropriate.

The reviewer does have some nit-picking complaints. The text has an extensive list of cross references from problem to theorem to example, which is good. However, it badly needs a list of special symbols. The terminology "unital algebra" (that's an algebra with unit) is surely a barbarism of the worst sort. The indexing is quaint. The Springer format is unlovely.

Aside from a few cavils like those above, the reviewer feels that this book is really first rate, and will serve well both as a text for a standard graduate course and as a reference work.

H. S. BEAR

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*Boolean-valued models and independence proofs in set theory*, by J. L. Bell, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1977, xviii + 124 pp., $14.50.

This lucid and elegant introduction to Boolean-valued models is a book which could have been written ten years ago, and in fact was supposed to have been–by different authors! As Dana Scott says in his introduction to the book, it "essentially supplants" a projected paper by Scott and Robert Solovay which may be one of the most-referenced unwritten papers in recent mathematical history. The contents of that nonexistent paper (and this book) are as familiar to the set theorist today as is sheaf theory to the algebraic geometer, but clear and detailed expositions for the beginner are still relatively scarce, so this book is welcome.

For those not familiar with the recent history of set theory a few words of background may be in order. In the years B.C. (Before Cohen) there were