and the course is progressively graded in difficulty. The book in its present form is reliable and up to date.

H. S. UHLER

Proceedings of the First International Congress for Applied Mechanics, edited by B. Biezeno and J. M. Burgers. Delft, 1924. xxii+460 pp.

In September, 1922, a conference of scientists from various countries assembled at Innsbruck to discuss questions of hydrodynamics and aerodynamics. At that meeting the idea originated of trying to call together a larger conference to consider questions ranging over the whole domain of applied mechanics. This congress met during April 1924 in Holland at Delft, the seat of the Dutch Technical University. During the conference it was decided to establish a permanent institution called the International Congress for Applied Mechanics, to assemble every fourth year. To get a difference of phase of two years with the International Congress of Mathematics the next meeting (at Zürich) will be held in the autumn of 1926. General matters were left in charge of an International Congress Committee on which the United States is represented by Professor J. S. Ames of Johns Hopkins.

In arranging for the congress at Delft two days were assigned for general meetings devoted to review lectures on subjects in which considerable advance had been made during the last few years. About a dozen topics were selected and a number of prominent scientists invited to treat them. These lectures, somewhat abridged by the editors, occupy the first 176 pages of the *Proceedings*. The remainder of the volume contains original communications divided into three sections, rational mechanics, theory of elasticity, hydro- and aerodynamics. Any attempt to summarize the contents of the nearly 40 papers in this group could hardly be more than a mention of titles. While a few are concerned with graphical methods or reports of experimental work, most of them contain investigations of a mathematical nature.

H. B. PHILLIPS

Introduction à la Gravifique einsteinienne. By Th. de. Donder. MÉMORIAL DES SCIENCES MATHÉMATIQUES, No. 8. Paris, Gauthier-Villas, 1925. 56 pp.

This little pamphlet is the first of a series of three by the same author to be published in the same series of semi-popular expositions. The other two will be entitled *Théorie des Champs Gravifiques* and *Quelques Problèmes de la Gravifique*. In the introductory pamphlet now before us the author first presents an excellent development of the generalized theory of relativity. De Donder then applies the general theory to the task of deriving the restricted theory in a novel and most interesting manner. The effect of this treatment upon my own consciousness was quite as stimulating as was, several years ago, the presentation of the definition of an integral before that of a derivative in Osgood's *Funktionentheorie*. I believe that others may find this book equally stimulating.

C. N. REYNOLDS, JR.