

third, which as yet is only projected, to be designated *Les bornes de la mécanique*. Although the first and last parts must of necessity throw much light upon the second, it should be observed that this second, which has chiefly to do with the dynamics of a particle and rigid body and which as such bears most closely on the problems of interest to the teacher, may without difficulty be read alone. And the reading is highly to be recommended. The extremely logical may long for a specific set of postulates by virtue of which the subject matter and terms of elementary mechanics shall be defined; but though the actual establishment of such a set be a worthy scientific objective point, one should recognize that it may have much of the sterility of any puristic accomplishment,—the instructive thing is to contemplate the foundations of a subject from various angles, and this is precisely what Jouguet makes easy for us in reference to mechanics.

We have written from the point of view of the teacher, but the student, the physicist, the philosopher will find much of interest to them in these pages, and the logician who would construct a set of postulates for mechanics which should be of real value to teacher and pupil as well as of scientific exactness cannot safely neglect the points of approach which the race, through its geniuses, has shown to be the genius of the race.

E. B. WILSON.

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#### CORRECTION.

PROFESSOR D. R. Curtiss calls our attention to the following erratum in his paper published in the *BULLETIN* in June last:

Page 466. In the formula for the determinant  $\Delta_n(x, \xi)$ , the index  $n - 2$  should, throughout the last row, be replaced by  $n - 3$ .