No one will hold it against Dr. Kowalewski that his very original 156 page book-let does not try to cover "the fundamentals and basic laws of higher mathematics" implied by the title. But it may be well to warn budding engineers and naturalists that this is no beginner's textbook.

Of the three chapters—"Vector Calculus and the Theory of Determinants," "Theory of Limits," "Differential and Integral Calculus"—the contents and the spirit of the last one came nearest to what one finds in the average textbook. The first chapter (an authoritative treatment of the relations between vectors and determinants) and the second one (Weierstrass' law and some of its conclusions) will be appreciated most by advanced students, and the place of these subjects in a con-densed curriculum appears a little doubtful.

American readers will be tempted to compare Dr. Kowalewski's little volume with *Higher Mathematics for Engineers and Physicists* by I. S. and E. S. Sokolnikoff. Taking into account a 3 to 1 ratio in size in favor of the Sokolnikoffs, this reviewer believes that engineers will prefer the American work because of its excellent selection of important material and its "engineering approach."

Dr. Kowalewski's work, expert as it is, misses this appeal.

R. P. KROON

Your Chance to Win. The Laws of Chance and Probability. By H. C. Levinson. New York and Toronto, Farrar and Rinehart, 1939. 343 pp.

According to the advertisement of this book, the author "has taught mathematics at Ohio State University and has devoted more than eleven years to business statistics and to executive work in business." After reading the book, one wonders also how much time the author has spent at such places as Monte Carlo and Canfield's.

This book is written for the layman, so the mathematics involved is just an application of the laws of probability that are found in any college algebra. The topics covered by the book include such titles as luck, chance, statistics, the world of super-stition, fallacies, heads or tails, poker chances, roulette, lotteries, craps, bridge, fallacies in statistics, statistics and science, and so on.

This book is more interesting for its practical psychology and common sense than for its mathematics. Everyone is superstitious and a "gambler at heart" (according to an old saying), so perhaps everyone should read this book. Again, mathematics is said to be just "organized common sense," so perhaps mathematicians should take also a scientific interest in this book.

At any rate, undergraduate mathematics clubs would find this book excellent for at least one meeting, if we may judge from the sudden and great interest shown by freshmen when the topic of probability is reached in the course in college algebra. The reviewer enjoyed immensely reading this book and was especially interested to find worked out why it is so hard to "fill the inside of a straight" in poker. However, a word of warning should be given at this point. The fundamental assumption of this book is that all the activities discussed therein are conducted honestly. As we all know, this assumption is so often not satisfied in practice.

ALAN D. CAMPBELL

Elementary Theory of Operational Mathematics. By Eugene Stephens. New York, McGraw-Hill, 1937. 11+313 pp.

This book is concerned primarily with the theory of symbolic operators and their application to the solution of differential equations. The book, as stated in the preface, "is an outgrowth of an attempt (1) to search out the history of these [operational]