
Algebra and Trigonometry. *Thomas J. Robinson.* Harper & Row, New York, 1970. xix+407 p. \$8.95.

As a book designed to provide material which will serve as a preparation for calculus, the author clearly achieves his goal. The material presented includes what one normally expects to find in a college algebra or trigonometry text. It is flexible enough such that an instructor using the book has ample material available to give a concentration in either topic, or an in-depth treatment of both. The definition-example-theorem-proof format might present difficulties for readers at a low starting level of mathematical maturity (e.g. one year of high school algebra); however, the completeness and clarity of the explanations, in addition to the abundance of examples and exercises, are definite positive factors from both mathematical and pedagogical points of view.

JAMES L. SMITH

College Algebra. *Carl H. Denbow.* Harper & Row, New York, 1970. xi+434 p. \$8.95.

The author certainly achieves his aim of presenting the basic algebraic and analytic concepts needed by students with the traditional background of two years of high school algebra and one year of geometry who want to go on in mathematics with a study of modern courses in calculus, linear algebra, and probability. If anything, the name on the book may be misleading, as the approach is much fresher and more exciting than is that in the traditional college algebra book; however, the name does indicate the level of audience for which the book is written.

This book clearly rates a top score from both mathematical and pedagogical points of view. Mathematically, the basic concepts are presented in a clear, technically correct, yet not overpowering manner. The author seems to have a sixth sense and avoids the *tedium ad boreum* charge. The proofs which he leaves for the student are those which one may reasonably expect a student to do as exercises. Pedagogically, the exposition is clear, and flows easily and naturally from cover to cover. The examples presented are non-trivial yet strikingly uncomplicated, such that they vivify the concepts being illustrated. There are ample exercises on which the reader may flex his mathematical muscles.

JAMES L. SMITH

Middle Devonian Formations in the Subsurface of Northwestern Ohio. *A. Janssens.* Ohio Division of Geological Survey, Report of Investigations No. 78, 1207 Grandview Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43212. 1970. iii+22 p. 57 cents.

This report on the subsurface Devonian rocks of eight counties in the northwest corner of Ohio is based on a study of cuttings from 41 wells and examination of the rocks in several quarries. It includes a review of the work of others in this area and in adjacent parts of Indiana and Michigan, along with descriptions of the rocks, a geologic history, and maps showing the thicknesses of the units studied.

This is the first published study of the subsurface rocks in northwestern Ohio. Therefore, it will be valuable to those who are interested in the general geology and the limestones of the area, and especially to those engaged in oil and gas activity there.

OHIO DIVISION OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEY