

subject matter, the production of which must have entailed considerable effort. The present volume deals with the general theory of algebraic numbers and includes many topics, for example, the Dedekind theory of ideals, the Kronecker theory of forms, the theory of units, of the number of ideal classes, Minkowski's geometry of numbers, relative fields, the Galois theory and Hensel's  $p$ -adic numbers. It will make a useful compendium and will prove convenient for readers who wish to consult it upon different topics.

The volumes, as a whole, produce a distinct feeling that they would have been far more useful if written twenty-five years ago, when they would have reflected more accurately the state of knowledge at the time of publication. But since then, discoveries not inferior in importance to any of the past have been made, and the subject has been given an impetus in many other directions. The modern theory would also enable a reader to dispense with the study of some of the older theories which now are chiefly of historical interest. It would have suggested a rearrangement of the subject matter and a different outlook. These would have been more useful to the student anxious to come into contact with more recent work and unwilling to be delayed by so great a study of the older work as is now given here.

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*Ergebnisse der Enzymforschung.* Herausgegeben von F. F. Nord und R. Weidenhagen. Band 2. Pp. xii + 358. (Leipzig: Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft m.b.H., 1933.) 30 gold marks.

THIS is a series of short chapters, each written by an active worker in the particular section, dealing with selected subjects in the larger field of enzyme chemistry, a subject which is once again very much to the fore. A previous and similar volume has already been noticed in these columns. The British contributors are Moelwyn-Hughes on the kinetics of enzyme reaction, Keilin on cytochrome, and Horning on mitochondria. From the United States, Northrop and Kunitz write on crystalline trypsin and Hand on peroxidase and the iron-porphyrin catalysts. Myrbäck of Stockholm discusses co-zymase, Lundsgaard of Copenhagen deals with glycolysis, and there are several German contributors, so that the volume, like the science, is essentially international. The German contributions comprise cryolysis by Nord, esterases by Rona, emulsin by Helferich, invertase by Weidenhagen, and several others.

All are highly specialised subjects, of which our knowledge is in a state of flux, but always expanding. Such summaries help workers to crystallise the momentary position and to correlate it with the advance in other fields; they spare reference to the original literature, though this reference should never be omitted by the actual experimenters. In a decade, much that is here will be discarded, corrected, or out of date, but it is only by such means that a contact with progress can be maintained.

*The Intelligent Man's Guide Through World Chaos.*

By G. D. H. Cole. Pp. 680. (London: Victor Gollancz, Ltd., 1932.) 5s. net.

THE keynote to Mr. Cole's book may be found in its title, for this able exposition of current world economic affairs is essentially a plea for more intelligence in the whole interlocked world of industry, politics, economics and society in general. In this, as in his appeal to open-mindedness, Mr. Cole has large claims on the interest of the scientific worker, who will be quick to note how fairly and clearly, without concealing his own opinions, Mr. Cole contrives to express the differing views or theories of economics, finance and taxation, prices and price level, industrial organisation, economic planning and the like.

Mr. Cole discerns clearly enough the share of science, or rather of mechanical science, in our present difficulties. He sees, for example, that the trouble has been not the failure of the technicians to devise improved methods of production, but the slowness of farmers and employers in adopting the new technique, and above all the failure of the market for goods to expand fast enough to make it worth while to employ the new resources of production to the full. He writes pertinently about industrial organisation and scientific management and the position of the scientific worker in industry, and his observations should be noted by those who are concerned with the scientific administration of industry or the State.

*The German Jew: his Share in Modern Culture.*

By Prof. Abraham Myerson and Isaac Goldberg. Pp. xiii + 161 + ix. (London: Martin Hopkinson, Ltd., 1933.) 3s. 6d. net.

THIS little book is a counter to Nazi anti-Semitism; but it is written temperately, and the facts, on the whole, are left to speak for themselves. Three brief introductory chapters survey the development of the present attitude towards the Jew in Germany, and contrast that attitude with the value placed on Jewish achievement by the rest of the world.

As an index to the latter, it is pointed out that in the award of the Nobel prize, ten per cent of the recipients have been Jews or persons of Jewish descent. The authors then take each of certain representative fields of intellectual activity, such as medicine, physics, chemistry, philosophy, music, literature, the drama and so forth, and single out for mention the more eminent of the German Jews whose merits in these fields have been universally recognised.

It is to be noted that the achievements of those mentioned are specifically contributions to German culture: contributions to German-Jewish culture are not taken into account. Although not exhaustive, the record shows that the Jews who have attained intellectual eminence in Germany have been far in excess of their proportion to the rest of the German population.