Thus, in the course of producing this book, Mr. Acton has possibly performed an additional service to the academic community. This is to focus attention on a more profound pedagogical problem. To what extent, if any, should a textbook be a written-out lecture? Should the book, or lecture, both or neither, be long-winded and expansive or concise or thorough—or even humorous?

Whatever the individual instructor's views on this might be, he should certainly enjoy reading this book himself. And if he agrees that a lecture and a textbook should be roughly equivalent, he now has at his disposal the means to put his own view to a practical test in class.

J. N. L.

2 [2.05].—A. TALBOT, Editor, *Approximation Theory*, Proceedings of a Symposium held at Lancaster, July 1969, Academic Press, Inc., London, 1970, viii + 353 pp., 25 cm. Price 75s.

The advent of high-speed computers and the importance of approximation theory as a tool in computation have stimulated a great deal of recent research. *Approximation Theory* is a compendium of twenty-four papers presented at the International Symposium on Approximation Theory, held at the University of Lancaster, England, in July of 1969. The papers deal with a wide range of topics, both classical and modern, theoretical and practical. Of particular note is the inclusion of the first English account of the "method of functionals" developed by E. V. Voronovskaya. The papers give a good indication of the diversity and beauty of the field of approximation theory, and, hopefully, will help to stimulate more activity. The material is generally well presented and free of errors. This book should be a worthwhile addition to the library of anyone interested in approximation theory or numerical analysis. The table of contents follows:

Approximation relative to Hausdorff distance
B. Sendov

III. Non-Linear Approximation

Tschebyscheff-approximation with sums of exponentials
H. Werner
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IV. Practical Techniques

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V. Approximation in Abstract Linear Spaces

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Simultaneous approximation and interpolation with preservation of norm
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VI. Approximation by Linear Operators

On asymptotic approximation theorems for sequences of linear positive operators
M. W. Müller
Related interpolation problems
G. A. Read
Probabilistic methods in the theory of approximation of functions of several variables by linear positive operators
D. D. Stancu

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