<u>Abstract Sets and Finite Ordinals</u>, by G. B. Keene. International
Series of Monographs in Pure and Applied Mathematics, Vol. 23.
Pergamon Press, 1961. x + 106 pages. $3.50.

"The purpose of this book is to present a fragment of the Bernays
Theory (of sets) in a version which, while it makes explicit use of a
certain amount of formalism, calls for no previous acquaintance with
the subject." The development culminates in the deduction of the
Peano axioms for natural numbers (here defined as special ordinals)
and the proof that these finite ordinals can be used to define the number
of a finite class, thus "drawing a continuous line between the logic of
classes and the beginning of mathematics".

<div align="right">G. Bruns, McMaster University</div>

<u>Monographie des treillis et algèbre de Boole</u>, by Michel Carvello.
Collection de mathematiques economiques. Gauthier-Villars, Paris,
1962. xii + 127 pages. 28 NF.

This booklet seems to be written mainly for the non-mathematician
who has to apply techniques connected with Boolean algebras. Accord-
ingly, emphasis is laid on the technical aspects of the theory rather than
its purely mathematical content. The main part (the second) of the book
(p. 22 to 75), titled "Algèbre de Boole", gives a detailed treatment of
Boolean functions (all Boolean functions of two and three variables are
listed explicitly) and Boolean equations. The third part discusses the
relations with mathematical logic; the fourth gives applications to
electrical networks and some related topics. The least satisfactory
part of the book is the first, which gives an introduction to the general
theory of lattices and contains some quite imprecise and unusual
definitions, and even the wrong statement (p. 8) that every element in
a distributive lattice has a pseudo-complement (here called negation).

<div align="right">G. Bruns, McMaster University</div>

<u>Logic and Boolean Algebra</u>, by B. H. Arnold. Prentice-Hall, Inc.,
Englewood Cliffs, N. J., 1962. vi + 144 pages. $9.00.

The book contains an elementary introduction to the following
topics: propositional calculus, Boolean functions, (partially) ordered
sets, lattices, Boolean lattices, applications of Boolean lattices to
electrical networks, computers and logic. Although the method of
presentation is informal, extreme care has been given to make all
statements as precise as possible, sometimes to the extent that the
beginner can hardly appreciate its usefulness. The book can be
recommended to students without any advanced mathematical training
who want a first introduction to the fields discussed.

<div align="right">G. Bruns, McMaster University</div>

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