

## RANDOM NOTES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

With the beginning of the year 1964, the Bulletin became a quarterly publication and so made a further step in its steady advance from its beginning in 1957 as a news letter to its present important position relative to Canadian Mathematical Research. Its circulation is also steadily increasing not only in Canada but also in other countries. This is indicative of its increasing interest to mathematicians in those countries.

The list of members of the new council to hold office until September 1965 is printed on the inside of the front cover of this issue. The new members of the Executive Committee are Professor Max Wyman, President, and Professors H. S. M. Coxeter, and M. L' Abbé, Vice-presidents. The Congress is indebted to Professor R. D. James, retiring president, for his untiring efforts on behalf of the Congress during the past two years and also to Professors A. Gauthier and R. L. Rosenberg, retiring Vice-presidents. Thirteen new council members were also elected for a two-year term. This two year term for councillors with a maximum of two successive terms in office was initiated in 1963 when the new constitution was adopted. This policy will enable more Canadian mathematicians to hold office and so become better acquainted with the activities of the Congress and the problems arising in its administration.

Twenty-three members of Council attended the meetings in Saskatoon. This large representation was due in part to the decision of the Executive Committee to award a travel grant to each member which, with the respective university grants, paid most of the expenses. The next meeting of the Council will be held in June when the Congress meets in conjunction with the Royal Society of Canada in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

One hundred and four mathematicians attended the meetings in Saskatoon last August and September, seventy-six at the Seminar, August 14-31, and sixty-six at the Congress meeting, September 1-4.

The seminar was one of the most successful sessions in recent years. The panel of research lecturers consisting of

R. H. Bruck - University of Wisconsin

K. Kuratowski - University of Warsaw

G. Pickert - University of Giessen

E. M. Wright - University of Aberdeen

proved to be an exceedingly good choice. In addition to their interesting lectures they gave freely of their time and this led to many series of lively discussions. The instructional lecturers were:

A. L. Dulmage - University of Manitoba

A. P. Guinand - University of Saskatchewan

W. T. Tutte - University of Waterloo

R. G. Stanton and D. A. Spratt - University of Waterloo.

Another part of the programme which contributed greatly to the success of the seminar was the colloquium on the main topic of the seminar, Combinatorial Mathematics. This was the result of the untiring efforts of Professor N. Mendelsohn, Chairman of the Seminar Programme Committee, and helped to attract the largest group, twenty-four, of mathematicians from the United States in recent years to these meetings. The colloquium was fortunate in having Professor A. Renyi of Hungary as its chairman. Several papers were presented at the colloquium each week during the three weeks' period. A grant from the National Science Foundation enabled the Congress to give financial assistance to some of these visitors.

Our most sincere thanks go to Professor C. E. Miller and his local committee at the University of Saskatchewan who made all the local arrangements including the various items of entertainment, and to President Spinks of the University of Saskatchewan for his hospitality and helpfulness in so many ways. Members of the seminar were most delighted with the reception given by President and Mrs. Spinks at the opening of the seminar and for his remarks at the official opening session. A highlight of the social events at the seminar was a one-day excursion to Prince Albert about eighty miles north of Saskatoon where a most interesting visit was made to the Dominion Radar Laboratory. On the return journey after lunch the mathematicians and their families visited Batoche, the scene of the final events in the Louis Riel Rebellion. On the return to Saskatoon a picnic supper was held at the City Park, on the outskirts of Saskatoon. This visit was made more interesting by a lecture and briefing on these historic events prior to the excursion. A musical evening on August 25 provided a most pleasing way to bring to a close the social events of the seminar.

Not all members of the seminar were able to remain for the meetings of the Congress but twenty-eight others arrived to augment the number of those who could stay. This was the first September meeting of the Congress to be held in a three day period. Previous congresses occupied a week. The programme was well received and the council approved the same length of time for the 1965 congress. Further details of the seminar and congress will appear in the Proceedings of the Sixth Congress which will be published as a special issue of the Bulletin in the near future.

Many comments were made by members of the seminar concerning their impressions of the 1963 session. Everyone was most enthusiastic about the mathematics which of course determines whether or not the seminar was a success. Few could resist favourable comments regarding the beautiful campus of the University of Saskatchewan which is expanding rapidly according to a plan agreed upon at the inception of the university on its present site. Everyone was also much impressed by the amount of research which is going on, particularly in engineering fields, including electronics. The city has a beautiful location on the South Saskatchewan River. From the university, anyone who so desired, could walk across the bridge to the heart of the down-town area. Here

they found well stocked stores and a general feeling of optimism which seemed to pervade the atmosphere and this, it should be noted, was prior to the wheat agreement with Russia. Finally, the weatherman cooperated beautifully to give all the visitors a view of Saskatchewan at its best.

Members of the Congress will be interested to know that the 1965 Congress will be held at Laval University. The programme committee has been appointed and Professor H. S. M. Coxeter has consented to be chairman of this very important committee.

A final note concerns the summer sessions in graduate mathematics which the Congress sponsors at Dalhousie University, the University of Montreal and the University of British Columbia. A description of the programme at the University of Montreal is given below and further details of the other schools will be announced later. There is however ample opportunity for graduate and advanced students to continue their studies during the summer and there may be more financial assistance available to those who are interested.

## SÉMINAIRE DE MATHÉMATIQUES SUPÉRIEURES

### Troisième Session - Été 1964

Sous les auspices de l'Organisation du Traité de l'Atlantique Nord et de la Société Mathématique du Canada, l'Université de Montréal organisera durant l'été 1964 la troisième session de son Séminaire de Mathématiques Supérieures. Le Séminaire durera six semaines, du 6 juillet au 14 août.

### PROGRAMME

Professeur JEAN DIEUDONNÉ, Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques, Paris, Fondement de la géométrie algébrique moderne.

Professeur BENO ECKMANN, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale, Zurich, Homotopie et cohomologie.

Professeur PETER HILTON, Université Cornell, Ithaca, Catégories non-abéliennes.

Professeur GEOFFREY FOX, Université de Montréal, Intégration dans les groupes topologiques.

Professeur PAULO RIBENBOIM, Université Queen's, Kingston, Théorie des valuations.

Les cours des professeurs Dieudonné, Eckmann et Hilton s'adresseront à des auditeurs déjà engagés dans la recherche, tandis que ceux des professeurs Fox et Ribenboim seront plutôt des cours d'introduction.

Une formule d'inscription et de demande d'aide financière (pour frais de séjour et pour frais de voyage) ainsi que des renseignements plus détaillés peuvent être obtenus en s'adressant au "Séminaire de Mathématiques Supérieures, Université de Montréal, Case Postale 6128, Montréal, Canada".