

1979 ANNUAL MEETING
IOWA SECTION OF THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
CORNELL COLLEGE, MT. VERNON, IOWA
ROOM 306, LAW HALL

Friday, April 20

- 1:30 p.m. Modeling and Control of Childhood Diseases. DAVID TUDOR, Cornell College, Mt. Vernon.
- 2:00 p.m. Determining Elementary Topological Properties Through An Explicit Construction. DONAL MARKEN, Loras College, Dubuque.
- 2:20 p.m. B R E A K
- 2:40 p.m. Invited Address: "A Generalization of Dixmier's Center-Valued Trace Theory". ISTVAN KOVACS, Loras College, Dubuque.
- 3:40 p.m. Governor's Report. J. L. CORNETTE, Iowa State University, Ames.

Saturday, April 21

Student Papers

- 8:30 a.m. A Psychologist's Contributions to Mathematics. ELIZABETH A. BLOBAUM, Clarke College, Dubuque.
- 8:50 a.m. Mathematics in the Biological Sciences. RENATA M. KORONA, Clarke College, Dubuque.
- 9:10 a.m. Linear Algebra and Its Tools. JEANNE M. HAUPERT, Clarke College, Dubuque.
- 9:30 a.m. Invited Address: "Mathematics; Where Are We Going and What Can Educators Do About It?" A. B. WILLCOX, Executive Director of the Mathematical Association of America, Washington, D.C.
- 10:20 a.m. B R E A K
- In Honor of The Tricentennial of Leibnitz
- 10:40 a.m. Invited Address: "Infinitesimal Analysis - Then and Now". K. D. STROYAN, University of Iowa, Iowa City.
- 11:30 a.m. Panel Discussion: "Classroom Experiences in the Teaching of The Infinitesimal Calculus". EUGENE MADISON, University of Iowa, Iowa City. DEAN KARNS, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, JOHN PAIS, Webster College, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 12:30 p.m. Announcements and Business Session.

At the business meeting, we will choose a new Chairperson-Elect. The nominating committee has nominated Arnold Adelberg of Grinnell College and Alan Heckenbach of Iowa State University for this position. Also, the executive committee will ask you to vote on a proposal to designate the Iowa State University Library as the official repository of the records and papers of the section.

Another topic which will be brought up for discussion is our relationship with the Iowa Academy of Science. Actually very few of our members are members of the IAS. Many of our members resent having to pay non-member registration fees to attend our own meeting. Also frequently the meetings are scheduled in conflict with regional meetings of the American Mathematical Society and other mathematical organizations. On the other hand our section has been connected with the Academy since its beginning. They help pay the costs of our national speaker and bring in other speakers of general interest to the scientific community. The executive committee wants to generate discussion and get opinions this year with the idea of making some decision at the 1980 annual meeting.

Professor Wayne Woodworth of Drake University has been appointed as our Public Information Representative for a period of two years. He will keep the local media and CEIM informed of our activities. If you have any items you feel might be newsworthy let him know.

The Mathematical Association of America's newly formed Committee on Improving Remediation in the Colleges is seeking information from universities and colleges about effective efforts in the area of mathematics remediation. The Committee especially solicits information about programs that have been shown to prepare students deficient in mathematics for successful performance in the mathematics courses required for degree programs. The Committee also welcomes information about experimental programs that show promise even though documentation of their success is not yet available. Course content, organization, and emphases as well as descriptions of curricular materials used are of particular interest.

In addition, the Committee wishes to identify programs that have been developed to correct directly the causes of inadequate student preparation in mathematics. Persons who can inform the Committee of such programs are asked to communicate with

Professor Joan Leitzel
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Treasurers Report

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|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| Balance December 31, 1977 | | \$89.68 |
| Income | | |
| National Allotment | \$140.00 | |
| Interest on Savings Act. | 5.34 | |
| | | \$145.34 |
| Expenses | | |
| Postage | 41.49 | |
| Telephone Calls | 10.66 | |
| Meal Expenses | 4.64 | |
| Service Charge | .21 | |
| | | 56.98 |
| Balance December 31, 1978 | | \$178.04 |

Executive Committee:

Don Meyer, Chairperson, Central College
 Frank Kosier, Chairperson-Elect, University of Iowa
 James Peake, Secretary-Treasurer, Iowa State University

Governor's Report To The Iowa Section

Mathematical Association of America

James L. Cornette, April 29, 1979

As Governor from the Iowa Section, I attended the Board of Governor's meetings August 7, 1978 in Providence, Rhode Island and January 25, 1979 in Biloxi, Mississippi. Also I am chairman of a committee to "Review the Guidelines for Evaluating Collegiate Programs in Mathematics". Each meeting there are 25 to 30 reports from committees, editors, and officers, some of which contain interesting information and most of which receive very little discussion. Reported below are the issues that received most discussion in the Board Meetings, and one item (3) of idle curiosity.

1. (August 7, 1978) There was circulated to the Board for its comments a proposed document College Mathematics: How To Teach It. Since all of us are naturally experts on the subject, there was a lot of criticism. The document contains a number of elementary suggestions which common sense already dictates (arrive promptly in the class room), a few suggestions to which some objected (cast out the low test grade), and generally was a rather elementary treatment, probably because Socrates himself could not have written a document to fit the title. It was decided that the Committee should rework the document and submit it for Board approval before it is published. (See 6 below.)
2. (August 7, 1978) It was announced with alarm that the Carter Administration was attempting to create a cabinet level Department of Education and that said department would (might) assume the present NSF responsibility for science and mathematics education. Two resolutions were passed
 - A. Opposing the establishment of a Department of Education, and
 - B. If a Department of Education is established, opposing the budgetary transfer of science and mathematics education to it.I voted against A (it seemed to me to be flailing away at the whole system) and for B (scientists and mathematicians must continue to be responsible for science and mathematics education) and communicated the same to Representative Tom Harkin, who agreed.
3. (January 25, 1979) Appointments to forty of the Association committees were approved.
4. (January 25, 1979) The Board received a report from the Committee on Placement Tests. They have written mathematics placement tests that are being used by about 200 institutions. Each institution pays \$75 per year for use of the exams. The Committee would be happy if lots of people were to demand their services.
5. (January 25, 1979) The new building for the MAA national offices has been purchased and partly occupied by the Association and the remaining space has been fully leased. The building cost approximately \$800,000 (including renovations). The Building Fund produced \$360,000, the Association invested \$100,000, and there is a \$350,000 mortgage at 9 1/2%. It is still quite appropriate that Association members make contributions to the Building Fund.
6. (January 25, 1979) It was argued that the requirement past last August that College Mathematics: How-To Teach It be submitted for Board approval was an unusual requirement and might inhibit or discourage other committees that prepare MAA material (almost all on a volunteer basis). The Board reversed itself.