

RANDOM NOTES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

These brief notes were written in Halifax, Nova Scotia where the Summer School, conducted by the Congress, was held in conjunction with the Summer School for teachers conducted by the Nova Scotia Department of Education and the Summer School of Dalhousie University. A report on this school as well as the two summer sessions sponsored by the Congress at the University of Montreal and the University of British Columbia will be given in a later number of the Bulletin. Suffice it to note for the moment that while the graduate courses and research seminars were exceedingly successful, the efforts made by the Congress in the Nova Scotia School for teachers has still not attained the results desired by the committee in charge of the programme. However, there has been some progress and we have been requested to continue our efforts.

Another Congress activity, the High School competitions, will be reported in the next issue when full details are known. These were carried on in seven provinces this year and again showed an increase in participation. Owing to the change of entrance requirements at the University in Manitoba, where Senior Matriculation (Grade XII) will be required for entrance in 1964, the competition will in future be offered in Grade XII instead of Grade XI as in past years. Consequently the committee decided to postpone the competition this year. With the approval of the Council, an additional change will be made in the Manitoba competition. In 1965, it will consist of two parts, first, the M. A. A. contest for eighty minutes and then, following a twenty minute recess, a number of long answer questions to be answered in a second eighty minute period. The committee wished to try this procedure as an experiment and to continue if it gains approval from all concerned. The use of the M. A. A. contest will provide participation in the international contest with all the challenge that this provides and the long answer questions will provide the opportunity for more direct participation by Congress members who select the questions and read the papers. This part of the contest will naturally put less emphasis on speed. Candidates will, of course, be given their standings on the international contest as usual but the standings given by the committee will be the result of a combination of the scores on both parts of the competition. Some years ago the Council discussed the possibility of a Canadian Competition. Although such a competition has not proved feasible, the trend towards the requirement of Senior Matriculation as entrance to universities may bring it closer to realization in the near future.

Another decision by the Council at the meeting in Charlottetown will be of interest to members. An excellent report from the editor of the Bulletin emphasized the need for additional numbers and the Council approved his recommendations to issue six numbers each year beginning in 1965. This will ensure the publication of more articles each year and so reduce substantially the time between presentation of a paper and its appearance in the Bulletin. We are indeed fortunate in having such able administration from Professor W. O. J. Moser and Professor A. Sherk who are willing to continue their work and produce the six numbers.

In other directions one can also see the expansion of Congress activities. The two sections of the Summer Research Institute with a total of 59 fellows, almost equally divided between Kingston and Vancouver, had successful sessions. At the head office, we are attempting to keep in touch with graduates in mathematics in Canada and hope to have some interesting statistics in the near future.

Arrangements for the 1965 Seminar are well advanced and Professor Coxeter and his committee have almost completed the slate of lecturers. These include Professor Smithies from Cambridge and Professor Dixmier from Paris as research lecturers; Professors Davis (Toronto), Rooney (Toronto), Sion (U. B. C.) and Zaidman (Montreal) as instructional lecturers; and in the Congress programme Professor Hull (Toronto) will organize a symposium and Dr. Paul Gilmore of the Research Centre of the I. B. M. corporation will give two lectures.

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