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INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL INSTRUCTION COMMISSION

Participation of the Commission in the Amsterdam Congress, 1954.

Preparatory Work

by

H. BEHNKE (Munster, Westphalia).

I. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

At its first General Assembly, held in Rome from 9 March 1952, the International Mathematics Union reconstituted the International Mathematical Instruction Commission (I.M.I.C.) by calling upon Messrs. H. BEHNKE (Munster, Westphalia), A. CHATELET (Paris), H. FEHR (Geneva), R. L. JEFFERY (Canada) and D. KUREPA (Zagreb, Yugoslavia).

The Commission met at Geneva on 21 and 22 October 1952 and twice again in Paris on 21 February 1953 and 15 January 1954, to draw up an overall programme of work for presentation to the International Mathematicians' Congress to be held in Amsterdam in September 1954.

Additional members have been co-opted to form the following *Executive Committee* of the Commission:

- Honorary President: H. FEHR, Switzerland, route de Florissant 110, Geneva.
- Member ex officio: H. STONE, U.S.A., Eckhart Hall 303, University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Illinois.
- President: A. CHATELET, France, Faculty of Sciences, Paris.
- Vice-Presidents: G. KUREPA, Yugoslavia, Vincoviceva 6, Zagreb.
S. MACLANE, U.S.A., University of Chicago.
- Secretary: H. BEHNKE, Germany, Institute of Mathematics, Munster University, Schlossplatz 2, Munster, Westphalia.
- Treasurer: G. ASCOLI, Italy, Via Giacomo Medici 44, Turin.

Members: A. F. ANDERSEN, Denmark, Parkvaenget 28,
Charlottenlund.
R. L. JEFFERY, Canada, Queen's University,
Kingston, Ontario.
MAXWELL, Great Britain.
E. W. BETH, Netherlands.

The present membership of the I.M.U. covers twenty-seven: Argentine, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malaya-Singapore, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

In each of these countries a *National Committee for Mathematics* has been set up which combines with the respective national sub-commission, which in turn has the task of collaborating in the work of the I.M.I.C.

In his circular dated 7 May 1953, Prof. Châtelet of C.I.E.M. proposed to take: *L'Enseignement mathématique*, well known by all readers, as the Commission's official publication.

II. CIRCULAR FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE NATIONAL SUB-COMMISSIONS.

The Executive Committee of the International Mathematical Instruction Commission (I.M.I.C.) held its meeting on Jan. 15th 1954 at Paris under the presidency of Mr. CHATELET, president of the I.M.I.C.

I have the honour of imparting the decisions made at this meeting dealing with the two inquiries and the exhibition of the books and the documents settling the participation of the I.M.I.C. at the International Mathematical Congress which will be held at Amsterdam in Sept. 1954. I am adding two notes to this letter:

one referring to the inquiry on the "Part of Mathematics and the Mathematician in Contemporary Life" (this will be the subject of a general report presented to the Congress at Amsterdam by Mr. KUREPA, vice-president of the I.M.I.C.);
the other referring to the exhibition of books and documents which shall be mentioned below.

I would be very grateful to the presidents of the national sub-commissions if they made use of the indications given either by this letter or the included notes particularly those concerning the date of sending the reports, the documents and the names of the reporters or of the persons appointed.

*Decisions on the Preparations for the Amsterdam Congress Arrived
at by the Committee of the I.M.I.C. on January 15th, 1954.*

1. Inquiry on "The Part of Mathematics and the Mathematician in Contemporary Life". — Mr. KUREPA will present the general report