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algebraic geometry] could be handled had already been developed... ([34], p. 32).<sup>1)</sup>

Emmy Noether was a visiting professor in Moscow in 1928-1929. Alexandrov described the impact she has had on Pontryagin's work in the theory of continuous groups (topological algebra):

It is not hard to follow the influence of Emmy Noether on the developing mathematical talent of Pontryagin; the strong algebraic flavour in Pontryagin's work undoubtedly profited greatly from his association with Emmy Noether ([2], p. 175).

I will give the last word to Garrett Birkhoff who, in an article in 1976 describing the rise of abstract algebra from 1936 to 1950, said the following ([5], p. 81):

If Emmy Noether could have been at the 1950 [International] Congress [of Mathematicians], she would have felt very proud. Her concept of algebra had become central in contemporary mathematics. And it has continued to inspire algebraists ever since.

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<sup>1)</sup> To put this statement in perspective, van der Waerden precedes it with the following comments: "In the beginning of our century, many people felt that the theory of invariants was a mighty tool in algebraic geometry... I soon discovered that the real difficulties of algebraic geometry cannot be overcome by calculating invariants and covariants" ([39], p. 32).

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