THE SECOND ITHACA COLLOQUIUM*

The tenth colloquium of the American Mathematical Society and the second Ithaca Colloquium was held at Ithaca, N.Y., in conjunction with the thirty-first summer meeting of the Society on September 8-12, 1925.

Tied as we are to the decimal system of notation, the attainment of a tenth in any sequence is in the nature of the passing of a milestone. So it might be interesting to give in this connection a brief summary of the colloquia which have been held by the Society up to the present time.†

The colloquium idea was an outgrowth of the desire on the part of members of the Society to hear more extensive treatments of some of the recent developments of the science than can be given in the brief papers which are read at regular meetings of the Society. It was originally planned to hold these colloquia annually, but experience seems to have shown that a larger interval was better. They have been held at intervals of from two to five years, but the plan is to hold them at intervals of not more than two years in the future.

The main facts concerning the first ten colloquia are as follows.‡

* A report prepared by Professor T. H. Hildebrandt at the request of the Secretary of the Society and the editors of this BULLETIN.

† A résumé of the first five colloquia is to be found in the report of V. Snyder on The Fifth Colloquium, this BULLETIN, vol. 13 (1906-7) pp. 72-73. Material covering the first seven is contained in the preface to the volume of Madison Colloquium Lectures. See also the list of colloquium lectures published by this Society, on the inside of the front cover of this number.

‡ Perhaps the Evanston Colloquium, held on August 28 to September 9, 1893, should count as the zeroth or as the preliminary colloquium. Although it was not held under the auspices of this Society (which was not yet existent as such), the Society did acknowledge its interest and indebtedness by republishing the lectures in 1911 (reported by A. Ziwet and first published in 1893).

M. Bôcher: Linear Differential Equations and their Applications. Not published in full, but parts are contained in a pamphlet on Linear Differential Equations (Harvard University, 1898), and a paper in the Annals of Mathematics, (1), vol. 12.


H. S. White: Linear Systems of Curves on Algebraic Surfaces.

F. S. Woods: Connectivity of Euclidean Spaces.

Published for the Society under the title, The Boston Colloquium, by the Macmillan Company, in 1905.
THE FIFTH COLLOQUIUM. New Haven, Conn., September 5-8, 1906. Attendance, 43.
E. J. Wilczyński: *Projective Differential Geometry.*
Max Mason: *Selected Topics in the Theory of Boundary-Value Problems of Differential Equations.*
Published for the Society under the title, *The New Haven Colloquium,* by the Yale University Press, in 1910.

G. A. Bliss: *Fundamental Existence Theorems.*
E. Kasner: *Geometric Aspects of Dynamics.*
Published by the Society under the title, *Princeton Colloquium Lectures,* in 1913.

L. E. Dickson: *Certain Aspects of a General Theory of Invariants with special Consideration of Modular Invariants and Modular Geometry.*
W. F. Osgood: *Selected Topics in the Theory of Analytic Functions of several Complex Variables.*
Published by the Society under the title, *The Madison Colloquium Lectures,* in 1914.

O. Veblen: *Analysis Situs.*
Published by the Society under the title, *The Cambridge Colloquium Lectures,* in 1918 and 1922.

G. D. Birkhoff: *Dynamical Systems.*
F. R. Moulton: *Theory of Functions of Infinitely Many Variables.*
To be published by the Society.
THE TENTH COLLOQUIUM. Ithaca, N.Y., September 8-12, 1925. Attendance, 122.


D. JACKSON: The Theory of Approximation.

The committee in charge of the present colloquium consisted of L. E. Dickson, H. H. Mitchell, J. H. Tanner, and H. S. White. Professor Dickson resigned before the choice of lecturers, and H. H. Mitchell was appointed chairman of the committee in his stead. Two groups of five lectures each were given in the Lecture Room of Baker Laboratory, one by each lecturer on Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday afternoon, Thursday evening, Friday afternoon, and Saturday morning. The following one hundred twenty-two persons, the largest number in attendance at any colloquium held up to the present time by the Society, were present at the lectures.


Below are the synopses of the lectures as prepared by the speakers, one lecture being devoted to each section, with the exception of the material in Section III of the series by Professor Eisenhart, which was covered in his third and fourth lectures.
THE NEW DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY
BY PROFESSOR L. P. EISENHART


THE THEORY OF APPROXIMATION,
BY PROFESSOR DUNHAM JACKSON


IV. Interpolation. Formal solution of the problem of trigonometric interpolation with an odd or even number of points equally spaced over a period. Formal solution of the problem with unequally spaced points. Convergence and degree of convergence of the interpolation formulas for a continuous function, in the case of equally spaced points. An interpolation formula analogous to Fejér's integral in the theory of Fourier series. Convergence and degree of convergence of the interpolation formulas for a discontinuous function. A special problem of polynomial interpolation.


As announced elsewhere in the present issue of this Bulletin, the publication of these colloquium lectures has been referred by the Council of the Society to the Committee on Printing. It is anticipated that they will be published in full at an early date.

T. H. Hildebrandt