

IX SUMMER MEETINGS

As a result of Prof. Fiske's remarkable campaign for members of the Society, early in 1891, the membership was increased more than ninefold within a year and the local organization became national. The object of the campaign was to put the Society in the position to finance the publication of a *Bulletin*, of which the first number appeared in Oct. 1891. During the next three years this periodical was a link in welding together the group of members and in suggesting more significant achievements than had been brought about in such meetings as those arranged each year from October to June. Details are given in chapter I as to how in 1894 the American Mathematical Society came into being on July 1 and the first Summer Meeting of AMS was held at the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. More than a score of members were present and 10 papers read. There was thus initiated an important series of meetings at which members from all over the country would often be free to attend; and on such a great occasion as that of 1936, among the 800 who registered for the meetings, there were 443 members in attendance. Because of the International Congress of Mathematicians in Toronto, there was no Summer Meeting in 1924. Of such gatherings in the past decade, the one at Los Angeles in 1932 was most slimly attended; a large number of American mathematicians were then attending the International Congress of Mathematicians at Zürich.

The general availability of Summer Meetings to the membership at large brought about the establishment of the remarkable series of Colloquium Lectures which have been such an important feature of twenty of these gatherings 1896–1937. Details concerning these Lectures are to be found in chapter VI. It may be noted here, however, that the first two Colloquia were not regarded as parts of the regular Summer Meetings. Retiring AMS presidential addresses are usually delivered at Annual Meetings, but one was delivered at the Summer Meeting of 1929. As the result of a committee report on Summer Meetings at a meeting of the Council in Sept. 1928, the following recommendations were approved:

(a) That Summer Meetings be scheduled in four-year cycles; the first and third meetings of each cycle to be held in the east, the fourth in the middle west, and the second to be migratory; that this policy be brought to the notice of the mathematical departments of the institutions from whom invitations may be expected.

(b) That there be not more than one Summer Meeting of the Society in any one year.

(c) That a Colloquium of five lectures should normally be held in connection with each Summer Meeting; that the department which is to act as host be consulted in the determination of the number of speakers and of the subjects to be treated. It is further suggested that two or three speakers be invited to discuss the Colloquium Lectures, and that time for such discussion be allowed for on the program.

Some of the details in connection with (c), such as those regarding invited speakers on Colloquia, have not been put into effect.

The dates and locations of the first 43 Summer Meetings, the number of members in attendance, and certain other facts are given below. Three of the meetings have been at Cornell U., and after the Semi-Centennial Celebration, three will have been held at Columbia U. There were two each at nine other institutions, namely, Brown U., U. Chicago, Harvard U., M.I.T., U. Michigan, Ohio State U., Vassar C., Williams C., U. Wisconsin, and one each in the following places: Amherst, Mass., Berkeley and Stanford U., Boulder, Col., Brooklyn, N.Y., Buffalo, Cleveland, Evanston, Hanover, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, State College, Pa., Toronto, Urbana, Wellesley, New Haven, Philadelphia, Princeton, Rochester, St. Louis, Springfield, Mass. It will be noted that several of the early meetings were arranged in connection with the AAAS. Since 1917 the Summer Meetings of the MAA have immediately preceded or followed the meetings of the Society, and joint sessions have been frequently arranged.

I. 14-15 Aug. 1894, Polytechnic Inst., Brooklyn, N.Y., 22; (10 papers. With Sect. A, AAAS, 10 papers, mostly astron., but with math. papers by O. Stone and E. H. Moore)—II. 27-28 Aug. 1895, High School Bldg., Springfield, Mass., 33; (16 pap.; discussion of the topics (1) "A general subject catalogue or index of mathematical literature"; (2) "The mathematical curriculum of the college and scientific school." With AAAS)—III. 31 Aug.-1 Sept. 1896, Soc. of Natural Sciences, Buffalo, 34; (18 pap. Colloq. 2-5 Sept. J. Pierpont, M. Bôcher)—IV. 16-17 Aug. 1897, U. Toronto, 44; (21 papers; discussion of the topics: (1) "The accurate definition of the subject matter of modern mathematics"; (2) "The vocabulary of mathematics. The possibility of correcting and enriching it by cooperative action." Meetings immediately followed adjourned sessions of AAAS from Detroit to Toronto, and preceded the meetings in Toronto of BAAS. The Society's meetings were attended by the British mathems. A. R. Forsyth, A. G. Greenhill, O. Henrici, E. T. Whittaker)—V. 19-20 Aug. 1898, M.I.T., 53; (att. 65; 25 pap. Colloq. 22-27 Aug. W. F. Osgood, A. G. Webster)—VI. 25-26 Aug. 1899, Ohio State U., Columbus, O., 32; (att. 55; 23 pap. With AAAS)—VII. 27-29 June 1900, Columbia U., 56; (19 pap. With AAAS)—VIII. 19-24 Aug. 1901, Cornell U., 45; (att. 60; 32 pap. Colloq. O. Bolza, E. W. Brown)—IX. 2-3 Sept. 1902, Northwestern U., 37; (att. 55; 32 pap.)—X. 31 Aug.-5 Sept. 1903, M.I.T. 47; (37 pap. Colloq. H. S. White, E. B. Van Vleck, F. S. Woods)—XI. 16-17 Sept. 1904, Wash. U., St. Louis, Mo., 38; (24 pap. H. Poincaré of Paris, and G. Fano of Turin at meetings by special invitations; Poincaré presented a paper on "Closed geodesics on a closed convex surface.")—XII. 7-8 Sept. 1905, Williams C., 28; (23 pap.)—XIII. 3-8 Sept. 1906, Yale U., 46; (34 pap. Colloq. E. H. Moore, M. Mason, E. J. Wilczynski)—XIV. 5-6 Sept. 1907, Cornell U., 47; (36 pap.)—XV. 10-11 Sept. 1908, U. Illinois, 38; (att. 55; 33 pap.)—XVI. 13-18 Sept. 1909, Princeton U., 41; (32 pap. Colloq. G. A. Bliss, E. Kasner)—XVII. 6-7 Sept. 1910, Columbia U., 36; (30 pap.)—XVIII. 12-13 Sept. 1911, Vassar C., 32; (27 pap.)—XIX. 10-11 Sept. 1912, U. Pennsylvania, 29; (26 pap.)—XX. 8-13 Sept. 1913, U. Wisconsin, 57; (46 pap. Colloq. L. E. Dickson, W. F. Osgood)—XXI. 8-9 Sept. 1914, Brown U., 52; (34 pap.)—XXII. 3-4 Aug. 1915, U. California and Stanford U., Berkeley and Stanford U., 34; (23 pap.; in connection with Panama-Pacific Intern. Exposition)—XXIII. 4-8 Sept. 1916, Harvard U., 99; (44 pap. Colloq. G. C. Evans, O. Veblen)—XXIV. 4-6 Sept. 1917, Adelbert C. and Case Sch. Appl. Sci., Cleveland, 64; (34 pap.)—XXV. 4-6 Sept. 1918, Dartmouth C., Hanover, 46; (20 pap. At joint session MAA A. G. Webster)—XXVI. 2-4 Sept. 1919, U. Michigan, 80; (33 pap. With MAA and Amer. Astr. Soc., at joint session E. V. Huntington, retiring P MAA, E. W. Brown, F. Schlesinger)—XXVII. 7-11 Sept. 1920, U. Chicago, 99; (att. 120; 34 pap. Colloq. G. D. Birkhoff, F. R. Moulton)—XXVIII. 7-9 Sept. 1921,

Wellesley: C., 91; (36 pap. At joint session MAA J. Pierpont, A. C. Lunn)—XXIX. 7–8 Sept. 1922, U. Rochester, 70; (29 pap. Invited sp. C. A. Fischer)—XXX. 6–7 Sept. 1923, Vassar C., 79; (31 pap. Inv. sp. L. J. Mordell. Joint session MAA R. C. Archibald, retiring P MAA)—XXXI. 8–12 Sept. 1925, Cornell U., 150; (60 pap. Colloq. L. P. Eisenhart, D. Jackson)—XXXII. 8–9 Sept. 1926, Ohio State U., Columbus, 117; (70 pap. At joint session MAA E. W. Chittenden, E. T. Bell retiring P MAA)—XXXIII. 6–10 Sept. 1927, U. Wisconsin, 133; (69 pap. Colloq. E. T. Bell, Mrs. A. P. Wheeler)—XXXIV. 4–7 Sept. 1928, Amherst C., 128; (70 pap. Colloq. A. B. Coble.)—XXXV. 27–30 Aug. 1929, U. Colorado, Boulder, 109; (60 pap. Colloq. R. L. Moore. Retiring AMS presidential add. V. Snyder.)—XXXVI. 9–12 Sept. 1930, Brown U., 218; (78 pap. Colloq. S. Lefschetz. Inv. sp. T. H. Hildebrandt, J. D. Tamarkin)—XXXVII. 8–11 Sept. 1931, U. Minnesota, 146; (75 pap. Colloq. H. C. M. Morse. Inv. sp. E. Landau, C. C. MacDuffee)—XXXVIII. 30 Aug.–2 Sept. 1932, U. California at Los Angeles, 231; (78 pap. Colloq. J. F. Ritt. Inv. add. D. N. Lehmer, T. Radó)—XXXIX. 19–24 June 1933, U. Chicago, 231; (att. 500; 58 pap. Inv. sp. E. Bompiani, L. Fejér, T. Levi-Civita, G. D. Birkhoff, L. E. Dickson, W. C. Graustein, D. Jackson, C. N. Moore; first three speakers guests through courtesy Century of Progress Exposition. With AAAS)—XL. 4–7 Sept. 1934, Williams C., 169; (att. 270; 66 pap. Colloq. N. Wiener and R. E. A. C. Paley (dec.). Inv. sp. J. A. Shohat)—XLI. 10–13 Sept. 1935, U. Michigan, 177; (att. 275; 86 pap. Colloq. H. S. Vandiver. Inv. sp. G. Y. Rainich, G. T. Whyburn)—XLII. 31 Aug.–5 Sept. 1936, Harvard U., 443; (att. 800; 118 pap. Harvard Tercentenary Cel. meeting; following sp. AMS meetings by courtesy Harvard U.: R. A. Fisher, R. Carnap, E. J. Cartan, L. E. Dickson, G. H. Hardy, T. Levi-Civita, A. S. Eddington. Colloq. E. W. Chittenden. Inv. sp. G. C. Evans)—XLIII. 7–10 Sept. 1937, Pennsylvania State C., State College, Pa., 274; (att. 475; 101 pap. Colloq. J. v. Neumann. Inv. sp. H. Whitney)—XLIV. 6–9 Sept. 1938, Columbia U. (AMS Semi-Centennial Celebration. Inv. sp. R. C. Archibald, E. T. Bell, G. D. Birkhoff, G. C. Evans, E. J. McShane, J. F. Ritt, J. L. Synge, T. Y. Thomas, N. Wiener, R. L. Wilder).