

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

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During this period of change of century and millennium and as a followup to the January 2000 issue, the *Bulletin* will occasionally publish articles which give us a sense of how mathematics developed over the last hundred years. This selection will include historical reviews of mathematics and mathematicians as well as some earlier *Bulletin* articles.

A paper which profoundly influenced twentieth-century mathematics was Hilbert's list of problems delivered before the International Congress of Mathematicians in Paris in 1900. The list is well known; already as graduate students many of us could accurately cite what was Hilbert's problem so-and-so. But surprisingly few mathematicians have read his delightful paper, and many do not even know where to find a copy or that the first English translation appeared in the 1902 *Bulletin*.

In response to several requests and because Hilbert's problems nicely complement Karen Parshall's article giving an informative history of mathematics, Hilbert's paper is reprinted here.

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