LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

Professor C. St J. A. Nash-Williams (Reading)

MARRIAGE IN INFINITE SOCIETIES

Dr. K. J. Devlin (Lancaster)

TREES: AN EXPOSITORY TALK

FRIDAY, 18th January, 1980, at 3.30 p.m.

**Geological Society's Meeting Room,
Burlington House,
Piccadilly, London W1V 0JU**

All interested are very welcome
Tea will be served at 4.30 p.m.

LMS NEWSLETTER

No. 65   *January 1980*

DATES OF SOCIETY MEETINGS

Friday, 18 January 1980, Burlington House (C. St. J. A. Nash-Williams & K. J. Devlin).

Friday, 15 February 1980, Burlington House (R. Heath-Brown & C. Hooley).

Friday, 21 March 1980, Burlington House (L. Nirenberg & J. D. Murray).

Friday, 16 May–Saturday, 17 May 1980. Two-day meeting at Manchester.

Friday, 20 June 1980, Burlington House (J. C. Clunie & J. Eells).

R. A. BAILEY

RESULT OF 1979 COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The following were elected at the Annual General Meeting:
President
C. T. C. Wall, Ph.D., F.R.S.
Vice-Presidents
A. W. Goldie, M.A.
P. J. Higgins, M.A., Ph.D.
Treasurer
R. L. E. Schwarzenberger, M.A., Ph.D.
Librarian
P. McMullen, M.A., Ph.D.
Publications Secretary
S. A. Robertson, B.Sc., Ph.D.
Council and General Secretary
D. A. Brannan, Ph.D.
Meetings and Membership Secretary
R. Bailey, M.A., D.Phil.

Members-at-Large (one-year term)
R. Brown, M.A., D.Phil.
D. E. Edmunds, B.Sc., Ph.D.
D. B. A. Epstein, Ph.D.
H. Halberstam, M.Sc., Ph.D.
P. M. Neumann, M.A., D.Phil.
D. B. Singmaster, M.A., Ph.D.
J. H. Williamson, M.A., Ph.D.
Members-at-Large (two-year term)
G. R. Allan, M.A., Ph.D.
N. L. Biggs, M.A.
P. M. Cohn, M.A., Ph.D.
J. S. Pym, B.Sc., Ph.D.
J. T. Stuart, Ph.D., F.R.S.

D. A. BRANNAN

TREASURER'S REPORT

The resignation of Professor James as Treasurer was announced at the last Annual General Meeting and took effect on 31 March last year. He must therefore take the credit for a very satisfactory year during which the value of the Society's assets rose to just over £400,000.

The investment pool for the various Trust and Special Funds mentioned in last year's report has been established and the investments simplified. Grants from these funds for prizes were supplemented by a gift of £150 per annum towards Whitehead prizes from Pergamon Press Ltd.

The general Income and Expenditure account showed a surplus of £23,170 despite increased support of conferences and meetings. In a time of inflation such a surplus is actually less than would be required to protect the value of the Society's capital by reinvestment; it will therefore soon be necessary to reconsider the very low basic subscription of £3 per member which has been held constant for several years.

The main feature of the Publications account are the first payments towards our new joint venture with the American Mathematical Society, the translated *Transactions of the Moscow Mathematical Society*, together with higher costs associated with the enlarged *Russian Mathematical Surveys*. Despite these costs the account as a whole registered a surplus of £38,370 which will enable the Printing Reserve Fund to be built up to a level commensurate with the fluctuations in profitability of journals in times of economic uncertainty and with the costs of expanding the *Bulletin*. The financial health of the above three journals, together with the longer established *Proceedings* and *Journal*, involves constant negotiation with the various publishers involved by Professor Robertson as Publications Officer. I would like to take

this opportunity of thanking him and the Publications Committee for this aspect of his work which is primarily responsible for

the healthy state of the Society's finances.

R. L. E. Schwarzenberger

MEETINGS AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

MEMBERSHIP

On 1 November 1978 we had 1371 members, 41 corporate members and 25 Honorary members. Since then, we have elected 143 ordinary and 17 reciprocity members, 10 corporate members and one Honorary member, Professor Kunihiko Kodaira. The large number of elections has been the result of a membership drive aimed at broadening the Society's membership in such fields as applied mathematics, computer science, combinatorics, etc. and of a corporate membership drive. Nineteen persons have been admitted to the Society. Ten deaths have been notified to us. The membership stands at about 1425 members, 51 corporate members and 26 Honorary members.

Work has commenced on the next Membership List. It is being completely reset on a computer controlled film setter. This will make it easy to update the List and produce copies for administrative use or print the List more frequently. A geographic listing is presently planned. To facilitate the resetting, membership list information forms were circulated with last year's subscription forms. Would members who have had recent changes of address, status, etc., and who have not informed me, please let me know promptly.

A little over a year ago, I appealed for old copies of our Membership Lists since the Society had very few of them. We now have copies back to 1927, largely thanks to a gift from Professor L. S. Bosanquet. Nonetheless, we would be grateful for copies for any pre-1940 Lists.

MEETINGS

We held six meetings during the past session. Professor Cassels gave his Presidential Address in November. Dr. Wassermann and Professor Atiyah spoke at a Joint meeting with the Edinburgh Mathematical Society at Newcastle in January. Professor Edmunds and Dr. B. J. (now Sir John) Mason, the Naylor Prize winner, spoke in March. In May, we had a two-day meeting at Birmingham at which Professors Glauberman, Looijenga, Katok, A. Joseph and Dr. G. P. Scott spoke. Professor Macbeath and Professor Dynkin, the Hardy Lecturer, spoke in June. In October, Dr. R. Foote and Professor Hua spoke.

The Society's 1979 Hardy Lecturer, Professor E. B. Dynkin, visited ten universities and gave 12 lectures in 37 days.

About a year ago, Council established a Programme Committee to co-ordinate the planning of Society meetings and conferences (other than the Durham Symposia). This committee has met four times and is now planning meetings much further in advance than previously.

Once again, I would like to remind members that the Officers, especially the Programme Committee, always welcome suggestions for speakers, topics and venues for meetings.

Finally, since I am now retiring from this office, I would like to thank all the members of the Society who have so helpfully assisted in the organization of the Hardy Lectureships and other meetings outside London.

D. B. Singmaster

MEMBERSHIP LIST—1979

Copy for the Membership List is starting to go to the printers. Would any members who have not filled in a Membership List Information form or who have not informed me of any recent changes please write immediately to me, D. B. Singmaster, Polytechnic of the South Bank, London SE1 0AA.

SOCIETY LIBRARY

Newly elected members of the Society wishing to use the Library at University College are reminded that they must bring with them their letters of election to the Society. Members on the current Membership List should bring some means of identification (such as a driving licence, or something similar).

P. McMullen

SCHEME FOR EXCHANGES OF UNIVERSITY STAFF

The Council of the Society has decided to proceed with a scheme for short-term exchanges of staff between mathematics departments. The Vice-Chancellors of most British Universities have written to express support for the scheme, though it is clear that in nearly all cases no financial aid can be expected and exchanges will have to be made at the expense of the individuals involved. The rules under which the scheme will operate are as follows:

1. A member interested in a possible exchange should consult his head of department and then inform the Society. (This will not, of course, commit the member to accepting any particular exchange.)

2. The Society will publish in the *Newsletter* a list of departments at which there are members wishing to exchange.

3. A member interested in an exchange with one of the departments listed should consult his head of department and inform the Society.

4. The Society will put potential exchangees in contact. The individuals should agree between themselves and their Universities the details of the exchange, provided it is acceptable to the two departments involved.

6. Exchanges will be for up to one academic year.

7. Members on an exchange will continue to be paid by their home Universities.

Members who are interested in the possibility of an exchange are invited to write to J. S. Pym, Department of Pure Mathematics, Hicks Building, The University, Sheffield S3 7RH.

READING COMBINATORICS COLLOQUIUM

A combinatorics colloquium will be held at Reading University on 7 May 1980. Further details can be obtained from D. E. Daykin, Department of Mathematics, The University, Whiteknights, Reading.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ON PROBABILITY AND OPTIMIZATION

The fifth Latin-American School of Mathematics (V ELAM) will be held in Mar del Plata, Argentina on 28 July–8 August 1980. It will be devoted to statistics, probability theory and optimization. Invited speakers include A. de Acosta, J. E. Dennis, C. W. Grainger, N. Jain, D. Pierce, D. A. Sanchez and V. Yohai. Further details can be obtained from V ELAM, Instituto Argentino de Matematica, Viamonte 1636, 1055 Buenos Aires, Argentina.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MECHANICS

An Internationl Congress in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics will be held in Toronto, Canada on 17–23 August 1980. Invited speakers include E. Axelrod, C. Baiocchi, J. A. Battjes, B. Budiansky, H. Buggisch, G. G. Chernyi, J. W. Daly, G. Fichera, A. L. Gol'denveizer, S. S. Grigoryan, H. Hasimoto, J. C. R. Hunt, D. D. Joseph, H. H. E. Leipholz, C. Massonet, R. Moreau, Z. Mroz, N. Olhoff, T. J. Pedley, N. Roff, W. Schneider, E. Sternberg, R. C. Tennyson, J. R. Willis, J. Wittenburg and Y. Yamamoto. Further details can be obtained from K. Charbonneau, ICTAM Secretary, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0R6.

SEMINAR ON SINGULAR PERTURBATIONS AND ASYMPTOTICS

A Seminar on Singular Perturbations and Asymptotics will be held in Madison, U.S.A. on 28–30 May 1980. Invited speakers include P. P. N. de Groen, W. Eckhaus, Fred Howes, J. K. Kevorkian, N. Kopell, A. J. Leung, J. L. Lions, D. A. Lutz, B. J. Matkowsky, A. H. Nayfeh, F. W. J. Olver, R. O'Malley and Y. Sibuya.

Further details can be obtained from Mrs. G. G. Moran, Mathematics Research Centre, University of Wisconsin, Madison 53706, U.S.A.

LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

DR. R. HEATH-BROWN (Oxford)

SIEVES AND ALMOST-PRIMES

PROFESSOR C. HOOLEY (Cardiff)

SOME CONJECTURES AND RESULTS IN THE THEORY OF NUMBERS

FRIDAY, 15th February, 1980, at 3.30 p.m.

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