

The Australian Mathematical Society many months ago invited a representative of the Congress to visit the Australian universities. They are especially interested in the organization and financing of the Congress and in the operation of the Summer Research Institute. Now, thanks to the cooperation of the Carnegie Corporation, the Australia-Canada Society and the Australian universities, it has become possible for Gilbert Robinson to make this trip. He will spend the three Canadian summer months in Australia, will visit Japan briefly and return by way of India.

On behalf of the Congress I should like to welcome to Canada the fine group of about a dozen mathematicians who have come to us either permanently or temporarily from other countries. In addition to Paul Erdős, who has already been mentioned, and others whose names appeared in "News from the Departments" in the first number of the Bulletin, mention may be made of the arrival of Professor H. Nagao at Toronto. Professor Nagao comes from Osaka City University in Osaka, Japan. When I recently saw him in Toronto he was making excellent progress both mathematically and linguistically. Without the men from other countries on our university staffs our universities would hardly be able to carry on. Mathematicians in our universities come from the following countries: England, Scotland, Ireland (both parts), Wales, Australia, South Africa, West Indies, United States, India, Austria, Germany, Holland, France, Poland, Latvia, Switzerland, Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary, Greece, Roumania, Korea and Japan.

W. L. G. Williams

MONTREAL MATHEMATICAL COLLOQUIUM

The Montreal Mathematical Colloquium is an organization of mathematicians in the Montreal area formed for the purpose of holding regular mathematical meetings and for inviting outside speakers. This year (1957-1958) the following talks were given by the invited speakers:

- P. Erdős, "Some combinatoria problems in Set Theory"
- W. Magnus, "On Hill's equation"
- M. Kac, "Probability theory and potential theory"
- A. H. Wallace, "Analytic Equivalence of Curves".

Guests of the University of Montreal were:

R.D. Schafer, "Evariste Galois: 125 years later"

P. Dedecker, "Théorie générale des structures mathématiques et des structures locales".

Visitors to Montreal who spoke were:

R. Bott, "Homotopy of Lie Groups"

F. Brauer, "Spectral theory and differential equations".

Other speakers in the Colloquium were: G.D. Findlay, Z.A. Melzak, M.S. Macphail, H.J. Zassenhaus, O. Biberstein, M.D. Burrow, I. Fary, G. Fox, N. Oler, H. Helfenstein, F. Rothberger, H.W.E. Schwerdfeger, J.M. Maranda, T.V. Narayana, C. Fox, J. Lambek, and T.F. Morris.

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS

University of Alberta: Professor J.G. Kemeny spent four days here, March 12 to 15, as a visiting lecturer for the Mathematical Association of America. He gave two colloquium talks on "Markov chains in probability theory" and public lectures on "New developments in the teaching of mathematics" and on "Mathematics in the Social Sciences". He was guest speaker at a dinner meeting of the Mathematics and Physics club, at which he gave a delightful popular talk on the way group theory might have originated, and he also addressed several groups of mathematics students. His visit was greatly appreciated.

Professor P. Erdős¹¹ arrived early in April, to spend about three weeks here. He is giving a series of lectures on combinatorial problems and number theory. Dr. Guinand, Dr. Lowig and Dr. Baker are planning to attend the International Mathematical Congress in Edinburgh this summer. Dr. Moser and Dr. Gupta will be attending the Summer Research Institute at Kingston. Dr. Horton has obtained sabbatical leave for the session 1958-59, and will probably spend the year in England. Dr. Helfenstein has resigned to take up a permanent appointment at the University of Ottawa. Dr. I. Guttman has extended his leave of absence for another year at Princeton. Dr. R.O.A. Robinson has been appointed to the staff as Associate Professor,