

Plus + + +

The following material is reprinted from Plus + + +, a short magazine informing mathematics educators across Canada about important events, research, curriculum development, and items of national interest.

Proceedings of the Education Day Seminar of CMS

The Canadian Mathematical Society sponsored an instructional seminar as a part of its Winter Meeting on December 12, 1980 in Vancouver, B.C. This seminar was intended to give some of the flavor and nature of activities undertaken by applied mathematicians, particularly in British Columbia universities. Copies of the proceedings entitled "Modern Developments in the Uses of Mathematics," Technical Report No. 15, August 1981, edited by Dr. George Bluman, may be obtained at a cost of \$17.00 each from:

The Institute of Applied Mathematics and Statistics
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Y4

1981 Winter Meeting of the Canadian Mathematical Society

The Canadian Mathematical Society will again sponsor an education section at its winter meeting in Victoria, B.C. on December 11-13, 1981. We hope to have a report on the second International Mathematics Study (IEA), as B.C. will have a lot of its data and Ontario will have selected its samples.

Canadian Mathematics Education Study Group 1981 Meeting

CMESG held its 1981 meeting at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta on June 5-9. The keynote speakers were Doctors Jeremy Kilpatrick, University of Georgia, and Kenneth Iverson, I.P. Sharp Associates, Toronto. Copies of the proceedings of this conference are available from:

Dr. Joe Hillel, Secretary-Treasurer
Department of Mathematics
Concordia University
7141 Sherbrooke St. W
Montreal, Quebec H4B 1R6

For the Learning of Mathematics – An International Journal of Mathematics Education

An international journal of mathematical education has been recently started by the FLM Publishing Association under the auspices of the Canadian Mathematics Education Study Group. This publication aims to promote enquiry and research at all levels of mathematics and mathematics education. For further information, write to:

Dr. David Wheeler, Editor
Department of Mathematics
Concordia University
7141 Sherbrooke Street W
Montreal, Quebec H4B 1R6

Reading in Mathematics

"Reading is an essential skill in all subject areas - a skill which should be developed in those subjects. Can we, the teachers of mathematics, assume that skills developed in reading automatically transfer to the reading of mathematics? Or should we teach to ensure the transfer of reading skills?"

These are the questions addressed in Math Monograph No. 6: *Reading in Mathematics*, edited by John Percevault and published by The Alberta Teachers' Association. Seventeen papers contain quite a thorough account of the issues, both theoretical and practical, of the relation of reading skills to use of notation, reasoning, and solving of problems. They are sorted into five parts: I. Reading in the content areas; II. Survey papers; III. Practical considerations; IV. Teaching ideas; V. Bibliography. This useful volume can be obtained by forwarding \$5.00 to The Alberta Teachers' Association, 11010 - 142 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5N 2R1.

The Beatty Essay Contest

The submissions to the third Samuel Beatty Mathematics Essay contest have been judged. Unfortunately, there were no essays of the same standard of those in the first two contests, so this year no first and second prizes are being awarded. A third prize of \$75 goes to Sallianne Deck of Sarnia Northern Collegiate Institute and Vocational School for her essay, *Six numbers: Add any two - perfect square*. Honorable mention is made of the essays of Helen Earnshaw and Christopher Gaspar, both of Sarnia Northern C.I. & V.S., David Vinke of Glencoe District H.S. and Lindley Bassarath of Kirkland Lake C. & V.I.

A junior prize of \$50 is awarded to Stephen Smith, in Grade 8 at the Royal Orchard School, Thornhill, Ontario for his essay, *A study of Pythagorean triplets*. Vivian Verelas, in Grade 10 at Ajax High School, gets honorable mention.

Although all the competitors in the third contest were from Ontario, the contest is actually open to school students all across Canada. The deadline for submissions to the fourth contest will be March 31, 1982. For the rules and suggested topics, write to Prof. E. J. Barbeau, Department of Mathematics, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1. Those who would like, in addition, a book containing the winning essays from the 1979 and 1980 contests are requested to send a cheque for \$3, payable to the University of Toronto.

The 22nd International Mathematical Olympiad 1981 - Washington, D.C.

For the first time, Canada sent a team to the IMO, held this year in the United States. Travel expenses to and from the host country were covered by the Canadian Mathematical Society and grants of \$1000 each from the Samuel Beatty Fund and the Ministry of Education of Ontario. The eight team members, accompanied by Professor G. J. Butler of the University of Alberta and Professor E. J. Barbeau of the University of Toronto, first attended a training session at the University of Saskatchewan and then spent 12 days at Rutgers and Georgetown Universities for the competition which involved 185 students from 27 countries. David Ash (Ontario) and George Gonthier (Quebec) received first prizes for perfect papers. Second prizes went to John Chew (Ontario) and Cary Timar (Ontario), and a third prize went to Julian West (B.C.). Also on the team were Arthur Baragar (Alberta), David Bernier (Quebec), and John Bowman (Alberta). The total

score for the Canadian team was seventh highest after U.S.A., West Germany, U.K., Austria, Bulgaria, and Poland. Copies of the question paper and individual scores can be had from E. J. Barbeau, University College, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1.

The 23rd International Mathematical Olympiad 1982

Hungary has tentatively offered to host next year's Olympiad. If Canada is to send a team, we need money. Those who are willing to provide a donation or to help find money are requested to get in touch with Professor Barbeau of the University of Toronto. Professor Butler or Professor Barbeau are willing to consult with teachers about the training of students who are potential team members. Our team did us proud - let us respond!

About the Leapfrogs Group

Leapfrogs Group is a network of users and producers of books/materials for use in middle and secondary schools. Membership is open to all who wish to join and there is no membership fee. When you register you will be sent a list of books and materials available in the current "wave" of publications. You are then invited to maintain your membership by placing an order from at least one of the two bi-annual lists. For further information write to:

Leapfrogs Group, Cold Harbour
Newton Street,
Cyres, Exeter, Devon, U.K.

Gender and Mathematics – Canadian Report

The ERIC Centre is planning to publish an International Review on Gender and Mathematics. If you know of any Canadian publications, researches, action programs, . . . on this subject, please write to:

Dr. Roberta Mura
Faculty of Education
Laval University
Quebec City, P.Q. G1K 7P4

Professional Dates to Remember

- 60th Annual Meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
April 14-17, 1982
Toronto, Ontario

For further information write to: NCTM
1906 Association Drive
Reston, Virginia 22091

- 21st Northwest Mathematics Conference
November 5-7, 1982
Vancouver, B.C.

For further information write to: Mr. Gary Phillips
4024 West 35th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V6N 2J3