

## MCATA NOTES

### 1. Membership

The term for membership in the MCATA coincides with the school year, September 1 to August 31. New members paying their fees after May 1, 1962, and participants in the MCATA Seminar who paid a \$5 registration fee will be members in good standing until August 31, 1963.

### 2. Second Annual MCATA Conference

The MCATA conference will be held July 11-13, 1962 in the Mathematics-Physics Building of the University of Alberta. Members will register for the conference in MP132. The main conference room is MP126. A registration fee of \$1 will be collected at the time of registration. Programs will be mailed to members before the end of June.

The following is a brief outline of the sessions:

#### Wednesday, July 11

Morning

Registration

Addresses of Welcome

"Structure, Problem Solving and Stomach Thinking" -  
Eric MacPherson, UBC  
Discussion Groups

Afternoon

"Elementary Arithmetic 1961-62: A Year of Preparation" -  
N. M. Purvis, associate director of Curriculum

"Programmed Learning" - J. A. McDonald, ATA Past  
President

#### Thursday, July 12

Morning

"Open Sentences and Closed Minds" - Eric MacPherson  
Discussion Groups  
Answers by Mr. MacPherson to groups' questions

Afternoon "The Experimental Program in Grade VIII" - R. Plaxton,  
Viscount Bennett Junior and Senior High School,  
Calgary  
"Programming for Computers" - R. S. Julius, U. of A.

Evening Business Meeting (Agricultural Building, Room 345) -  
Regional councils, fees, elections, and future  
activities.

Friday, July 13.

Morning "The Role of the Statistician" - Dr. J. R. McGregor,  
U. of A.  
"The Emerging Mathematics Curriculum" - A. Evenson,  
General Supervisor of Senior High Schools, Edmonton

Afternoon "I Come No More to Make You Laugh" - Eric MacPherson

Closing Remarks - President J. M. Cherniwchan  
Adjournment

Instead of a question period following the first two addresses of our guest consultant, Eric MacPherson, a different approach will be used. Immediately following his address the conference will break up into small groups and discuss his talk. Questions from groups will be submitted to Mr. MacPherson to be answered by him at a special session provided on the second day of the conference.

Coffee will be provided during the breaks in Room MP132. A display of recent textbooks, and a selection of books for a mathematics library will appear in this room.

3. MCATA Elementary Mathematics Seminar, Alberta College, July 3-10.

Further to the report in the April Newsletter, the following may be of interest.

Our original plan was to provide for a workshop consisting of from 50 to 100 teachers. The interest shown in the proposed seminar has been most gratifying. The April MCATA executive meeting in Calgary

authorized the seminar planning committee to accept the first 100 applications as they were received, and to accept the others on the basis of geographical distribution, sponsorship, and date of receipt of application. The committee regrets that, due to accommodation limitations and difficulties in arranging for extra staff at this late date, a limit of 150 participants in this seminar had to be set. It is hoped that a workshop of this nature may be organized again another summer.

Arrangements have been made for two guest consultants, experts in the elementary mathematics field.

Raymond Cleveland, supervisor of mathematics for Rahway Public Schools, (New Jersey) has for several years been acting as a consultant for Scott, Foresman and Company on the Seeing Through Arithmetic series and is classified as a group author of this series. A recipient of several fellowships from the National Science Foundation, Mr. Cleveland has a very special interest in the teaching of mathematics. A field editor of mathematics for Scott, Foresman and Company, Merrill B. Hill has been responsible for organizing and directing many mathematics workshops in the United States. He has made a study of projects of the School Mathematics Study Group and other experimental groups.

Mr. Cleveland will be offering in the mornings a course in modern mathematics at the University of Alberta and will be available to the seminar in the afternoons only. Mr. Hill will be available both for morning and afternoon sessions.

N. M. Purvis, associate director of Curriculum, Department of Education; Mrs. J. Oldham, Holyrood School; Mrs. M. Palmetter, Inglewood School; Mr. R. Quail, principal, Scott Robertson School, all of Edmonton, have consented to help out with the group sessions at the seminar. It is hoped that arrangements can be made for additional people that have had extensive experience with the STA series to help out at the seminar.

The following is the outline of what is proposed at the seminar. There may be minor changes; the seminar planning committee has not had an opportunity to make a detailed study of it as yet.

Tuesday, July 3 - Background Information: History of arithmetics to present materials, Influence of psychological learning theory, Current trends

Wednesday, July 4 - Early Foundations: One-to-one correspondence and meaning of number; Recognition of numerosness, number sense; Grouping; Ordinal use of number; Grouping by tens, tallying, place value; Measurement ideas; Actions with sets of objects; Problem Solving - systematic approach; Difference between basic facts and computation

Thursday, July 5 - Computation: Basic facts; Grouping and regrouping; Numeration; Experience prerequisite to computation; Develop computation with representative example; Addition, subtraction, multiplication; Division; Fractions and decimals; Generalizations

Friday, July 6 - Problem Solving: Use of the equation; Additive and Subtractive type problems; Multiplicative type of problems; Quata-tive division problems; Partitive division problems; Comparison type problems; Systematic approach from the very beginning

Monday, July 9 - Problem Solving: Problems involving equal rates; Problems involving comparisons; Percent; Times as many; Fractions as components in rate problems; Multiple step problem; Averages; Area of rectangles

Tuesday, July 10 - Techniques for Using the Materials: Visual approach to learning; Individual Differences

#### 4. The Newsletter

This will be the last newsletter until fall. Any suggestions that would improve the newsletter would be of help to the editorial committee. Constructive criticisms will be appreciated. Destructive criticisms will be received but not appreciated.

WE WILL SEE YOU AT THE SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

University of Alberta, July 11-13, 1962

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