

Report of the President

This report was presented to the Annual Meeting of MCATA, September 26, 1970. At the same meeting, Mr. Kean was re-elected to serve a second term. Mr. Kean is the head of the Mathematics Department at Lord Beaverbrook High School, Calgary.



James A. Kean

This is a report about the kind of year the executive of the Mathematics Council had. It began on September 27, 1969, and ended September 26, 1970.

The latest list of membership shows 333 members, three students, 14 subscriptions and 15 complimentary memberships. This is a figure close to the number of members in the Council a year ago.

The first executive meeting took place on Saturday, October 25, 1969, in the Calgary ATA office. At this meeting the five table officers and T. F. Rieger went over the different positions and duties of the executive council. The discussions that followed led to a change in the constitution.

Four other executive meetings were held in Edmonton (December), Red Deer (February), Calgary (May), and again Red Deer (September). Attendance ranged from 6 to 12.

MCATA executive must report that Dr. Mary Beaton, the editor of the *Newsletter* for the past three terms, has resigned her post. The council certainly owes a lot to the hard work and dedication of Miss Beaton. During the past year she edited five newsletters which were well received. A quote from the Department of Education of the State of Arkansas, who had used a newsletter item in their bulletin, said: "We think you have some excellent articles, and we hope that you would not mind our using one of them."

We know that Murray Falk, the new editor, has a big task on his hands, but we have come to expect an efficient and well-done job from him. The current *Yearbook*, whose theme is "Active Learning in Mathematics", should go to print before Christmas.

The films owned by MCATA continue to provide a service to school districts around the province. It is the desire of the executive council to expand our film program.

We sponsored the Ontario Junior Mathematics Contest in Alberta, providing a prize of \$25 and a certificate to the top student in Alberta, as well as certificates for the second and third place candidates and a plaque for the top school.

We were the sole providers of a scholarship for the Canadian Math Congress exams in Alberta. The Council contributed \$200 towards prizes in the provincial exams.

The Math Council will continue to offer support to meetings of other mathematics teachers' groups in Alberta by paying out-of-pocket expenses and helping with honoraria. Each request for such help in the future should be channeled through the president, and the executive reserves the right to grant or refuse, on the merits of each request.

MCATA is the parent body to two official regionals, and it looks as if soon there will be a third in the St. Paul area.

The executive find it very discouraging, to say the least, in facing the lack of real enthusiasm on the part of math teachers in general to become active in their own Math Council. However, we will continue to work towards this end as regional councils offer the one place for active participation.

Two members of the executive council attended the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) annual meeting in Washington D.C. in April. One member was sent to Toronto to participate in the ETV program sponsored by the Canadian Association of Mathematics Teachers at the expense of that organization.

Ed Olsen attended the summer conference of the ATA in Banff and reports that it was worthwhile. The editor of the *Newsletter* and the editor of the *Annual* attended the Editors' Conference at Barnett House in Edmonton in September.

The main task of this body continues to be the planning and preparing of the annual meeting. We trust that the time, effort and funds that are needed to put on this event are worthwhile.

The biggest disappointment during the year was the lack of response by the membership with respect to nominations for executive council. If it was not for a few die-hards taking control of the situation, the 300-plus members would be without anyone to carry on the workings of the organization.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the executive for the job they have done this past year.

Do you know the best way to get right answers on those Multiple-Choice tests?

Use the "process of illumination"!

- Oregon Council of Teachers
of Mathematics Newsletter
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