Letters to the Editor

Editor's Note: The February, 1971, issue of the *Newsletter* contained a letter from "Curious Reader", Calgary, inquiring about the policies of the Universities of Calgary, Lethbridge and Alberta with respect to admitting students who present the Mathematics 13, 23, 33 sequence. We referred the inquiry to the registrars of the three universities and received the following replies:

Dear Mr. Falk:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 25, 1971, regarding our policy on admitting students who present Mathematics 13, 23 and 33.

The University of Alberta will not consider accepting Math 33 as a matriculation subject until a departmental examination is given for this course. The Faculties of Physical Education and Education will accept Math 33 as the non-examination subject option provided Math 30 is not also presented.

I trust this is the information you were seeking, and if there is any further assistance I can provide, I should be happy to do so.

Sincerely yours,

W. A. D. Burns,
Assistant Registrar and
Admissions Officer
The University of Alberta

Dear Mr. Falk:

> Re: Policy Statement of the University of
> Lethbridge re Mathematics 13, 23 & 33

Mathematics 33 may fulfil partial admission requirements to the University of
Lethbridge as indicated under "c" below. Mathematics 33 does not serve as an
official pre-requisite for any particular mathematics course offered by the Uni-
versity of Lethbridge, though as in all course offerings at this institution,
if the student, after seeking advice from the department concerned, feels that
he has sufficient background to handle the university course or courses, he may
be permitted to enrol in them notwithstanding the fact that he does not have
the recommended pre-requisite.

Admission Requirements:

Students seeking admission from Alberta high schools must present

a. a High School Diploma,
b. four 30 level Department of Education Examination subjects including English
    30 with an overall average of 60% and a minimum mark of 50% in any subject,
    AND
c. a fifth subject which may be either a 30-level Department of Education Exam-
    ination subject or a five-credit Grade XII non-examination subject with a
    minimum mark of 50%.

We hope this policy statement will clarify the situation for you.

Yours sincerely,

J. D. OVIATT
Registrar
University of Lethbridge

Dear Mr. Falk:

RE: Mathematics '33'

Dr. Stewart, Registrar and Academic Secretary, has asked that I send you a de-
tailed explanation concerning The University of Calgary's position with regard
to Mathematics '33'.

In April 1970, one of our assistant deans in the Faculty of Arts and Science
wrote a letter which was easily misinterpreted to indicate that The University

of Calgary would accept Mathematics '33' in lieu of Mathematics '30'. Unfortunately many of us were not aware such a letter had been sent. In discussion with this gentleman after that date, I can recall distinctly that he had felt acceptance would be given provided the course met with our standards and provided any student registered in Mathematics 13 or 23 could easily transfer to Mathematics 20 or 30 without any foreseeable difficulties. Nevertheless, the letter was misinterpreted and numerous students were encouraged to take Mathematics '33'.

On October 5, 1970, Dr. R. W. Wright, Dean of Arts and Science, wrote a letter to the Calgary School Board in which he indicated that ONLY the Faculty of Arts and Science would be willing to accept Mathematics '33' in lieu of Mathematics '30' for entrance provided, in addition, the applicant presented four Departmental Examination subjects. The average on all five would have to be 60% with no mark below 50% in any one subject. It was pointed out clearly in this letter that acceptance was for the 1971-72 Winter Session only.

All other faculties on this campus have agreed to accept Mathematics '33' as a Non-Departmental Examination subject only and not in lieu of Mathematics '30', where required.

On January 15, 1971, a letter was sent, by the Vice-Dean of Arts and Science, to the Department of Education indicating that unless certain conditions were met, The University of Calgary was not prepared to accept Mathematics '33' after the 1971-72 Session. I am not at liberty to divulge, at this time, these conditions. However, to this date no changes have been forthcoming.

I, therefore, reiterate that The University of Calgary can only indicate a policy of acceptance for 1971-72. The Registrar and myself apologize for the errors and misconceptions our Faculty of Arts and Science has caused. We can only hope that in the near future decisions are made which will be to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

G. J. Krivy
Admissions Officer
The University of Calgary

Mathematics teachers in high schools might be well advised to refer these statements of policy to their department heads and to their guidance counsellors. (The Editor)