



THE ALBERTA
TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION



MATHEMATICS COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Volume V, Number 1, April, 1966

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CALGARY MEETING OF NCTM

Join the hundreds of teachers from across Canada and the United States who will congregate in the foothills city for the province's first NCTM meeting - the third to be held in Canada.

These words, quoted from the brochure prepared by the Publicity Committee under the chairmanship of L.C. Pallesen, past president of MCATA, are of utmost importance to all members of the Mathematics Council.

Plan now to be in Calgary on August 25, 26, and 27. This is an opportunity you cannot afford to miss.

BOOK REVIEW

Van Engen, Henry; Hartung, Maurice L.; Stochl, James E.;
Foundations of Elementary School Arithmetic. Chicago, Illinois:
Scott, Foresman and Company. 450 pages.
Distributed by W.J. Gage Limited, 1500 Birchmount Road, Scar-
borough 4, Ontario. \$6.85

The book is written for college students who expect to become elementary school teachers and for teachers who already have had some experience in the classroom. It is not a "methods" book, but is designed for teaching teachers the foundations of arithmetic.

The main topics are the natural numbers, the rational numbers of arithmetic, numeration systems, number systems, the sets of number pairs called proportional relations, measurement and geometry. There is also a brief treatment of the system of rational numbers and the system of real numbers.

Since the choice of content in mathematics and the ways of presenting it are varied, the authors had to make certain decisions. Generally they have presented material that is appropriate for the teacher of young children. For example, in the development of the natural numbers they have used the approach through sets because it is more fruitful than other approaches for suggesting good instructional techniques in the elementary school program.

The material is presented in a form easy to follow. The ideas are developed by means of examples and illustrations. Often in the margin appears a reference to a concept previously developed in the text. There are numerous blocks of exercises throughout the book with responses provided at the back. Each chapter ends with a quiz and a list of supplementary readings. Finally, there is an extensive bibliography at the end of the last chapter.

- T.P.A.

EDMONTON REGIONAL MCATA ACTIVITIES

At the suggestion of a group of elementary teachers, the Edmonton Area Regional Mathematics Council has formed a study group whose purpose is to improve the teaching of mathematics at the elementary level and to help keep teachers informed of new developments.

The main activities consist of five meetings for teachers of Grades I through VI. At each of these meetings a paper is presented. This is followed by a general discussion and question period. After a coffee break there are group discussions by grades.

The dates, topics, and speakers for the meetings are as follows:

December 8, 1966, Geometry, Dr. S.E. Sigurdson,
Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

January 19, 1967, Measurement, Dr. L.D. Nelson,
Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

February 16, 1967, Structure, Dr. A.L. Dulmage,
Department of Mathematics, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

March 30, 1967, Problem Solving, Mrs. J. Kirkpatrick,
Division II teacher consultant, Edmonton Public School Board.

May 4, 1967, Numeration Systems, T.P. Atkinson,
Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

NOTE RE MCATA ANNUAL 1965

Pages 47-52 of the 1965 Annual of the MCATA contain an article by Gerard Hanson, entitled "The 'New Mathematics' - School Mathematics for the Space Age?"

Dr. S.E. Sigurdson, University of Alberta, Edmonton, is credited with having made comments on the article. Dr. Sigurdson has indicated that he had no part in the preparation of the article, and to the best of his knowledge all credit should go to Mr. Hanson.

SOME PUZZLES TO PONDER

Age and Month. Write down your age in years. Multiply the number you have written by 10 and add 5. Multiply this sum by 10 again. Add the number of the month in which you were born, counting January as 1, February as 2 and so on. Subtract 50. The first two numerals on the left will be your age. The next two will be the number of the month in which you were born.

Plugging a Hole. How can you cut a board three inches wide and ten inches long into two congruent pieces so that the two pieces will cover completely a hole that is two inches wide and fifteen inches long?

These are taken from "Some Puzzles for Thinkers"; Eugene P. Smith, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan. Twenty-seventh Year-book, Washington, D.C.: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, 1963.

*Newsletter Editor: T. P. Atkinson
Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, Edmonton*

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership is available to all persons interested in mathematics, the teaching of mathematics, and related problems.

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Mathematics Student Journal Subscriptions

Sold as a *group subscription* for five or more individual subscriptions to a single address. Price computed at the individual subscription rate of 30¢ per year, making the minimum group order \$1.50. NCTM members may purchase an *individual subscription* for 50¢ per year, if ordered at the same time as dues are paid.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036

I hereby apply for membership in the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. I understand that my membership includes a subscription to either the *Mathematics Teacher* or the *Arithmetic Teacher*. (Applications for membership must be accompanied by remittance.)

I enclose

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 \$1.50, Student Membership, including one journal *
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