Canadian Society for History
and Philosophy of Mathematics
Société canadienne d'histoire et
de philosophie des mathématiques

N E W S L E T T E R

February 1, 1983

Please send items to E.J. Barbeau, B201, University College, University of
Toronto, Toronto, Ontario   M5S 1A1.

83.1 ANNUAL MEETING: CALL FOR PAPERS

The annual meeting of CSHPM will be held at the University of British
Columbia with the Learned Societies Conference on Tuesday and Wednesday, June
7 and 8, 1983. We are looking forward to hearing about your research. Please
send titles of talks along with abstracts to E.J. Barbeau (address above; phone
(416) 978-8601 office; 483-1975 home), and a copy to the local arrangements
convenor L. Berggren, Department of Mathematics, Simon Fraser University,
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6. It would be very helpful in planning the programme if
you sent your material to arrive by APRIL 30.

We are also open to suggestions about speakers and panels.

The Canadian Mathematical Society meets in Vancouver at the Robson Centre
on June 2-4. There is a tentative plan to have a history of mathematics session
on June 4, and Len Berggren is looking after the local arrangements for this.
One suggestion is to use the occasion to mark the second bicentenary of the
death of Leonhard Euler. (See item 83.7)

83.2 SUMMER SEMINAR FOR TEACHERS AT TORONTO

A summer seminar on the history of mathematics for teachers of mathematics
will be conducted at the University of Toronto, July 25 to August 2, 1983. The
seminar will be sponsored by the International Commission on the History of
Mathematics and the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and
Technology of the University of Toronto. Through plenary sessions and smaller
working seminar sessions, participants will explore ways in which the history
of mathematics can enrich both the undergraduate and upper-level secondary
mathematics curriculum. Presentations by leading scholars on topics ranging
from Greek to twentieth century mathematics will be given. For more information,
write History of Mathematics Summer Seminar, Institute for the History and
Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario
M5S 1K7. Phone (416) 978-7391.

83.3 JUST PUBLISHED: GREGORY MOORE ON ZERMELO'S AXIOM OF CHOICE

Our congratulations go to Gregory H. Moore on the recent publication of
his book, "Zermelo's Axiom of Choice: its origins, development, and influence",
by Springer-Verlag. It is No. 8 in the series of Studies in the History of
Mathematics and Physical Sciences.

83.4 FOR THE RECORD: 1982 ANNUAL MEETING AT OTTAWA

The 1982 annual meeting was held at the University of Ottawa on June 7-9. The programme featured two invited addresses and a panel discussion designed to highlight the Canadian scene as well as to give some emphasis to philosophy as well as history.

Professor John Coleman, former chairman of the mathematics department at Queen's University and long active in research, pedagogy and organization, gave some highly personal reminiscences in his talk "Mathematics in Canada: 1935-1982 -- some anecdotes and some dogmatic opinions".

Professor Carolyn Eisele, Professor Emeritus of Hunter College, New York, persuasively expounded the greatness of "Charles S. Peirce, Mathematician", to the analysis and study of whose papers she has devoted much of her active life. She has recently brought out a definitive edition of "The new elements of mathematics by Charles S. Peirce".

The book "Gödel, Escher and Bach" by D. Hofstadter was the topic under discussion by a panel consisting of Professor John Berry of the University of Manitoba and Ms. Patricia Craig, a student of mathematics and music from Mount Allison University.

The contributed papers were:

"Mean and extreme ratio and Plato's Timaeus" Marshall Walker (York University)

"What are Euclid's Data 84, 85 all about?" Roger Fischler (Carleton University)

"Analysis, synthesis, fluxions and limits" Ross Willard (University of Toronto)

"Differential forms - a study in definition" Victor J. Katz (University of
                                                      District of Columbia)

"History in mathematics education" D.G. Tahta (formerly School of Education,
                                                      Exeter)

"Green's Theorem and its generalizations, 1857-70" Tom Archibald (University of
                                                      Toronto)

"Life and work of Piers Bohl" Viktors Linis (University of Ottawa)

"On representation and power" Francine Abeles (Kean College of New Jersey)

"Simulations des problèmes de probabilités traités au 17e et 18e siècles"
                                          Josephene Badrikian (Université de
                                          Clermont)

83.5 RECENT APPEARANCES

Francine Abeles, "C.L. Dodgson and apportionment for proportional representation" Ganita-Bharati 3 (1981), 71-82.

83.6 ISGHPM WORKSHOP

The International Study Group on the Relations between the History and
Pedagogy of Mathematics is holding a workshop in the Preparation of Historical
Materials for Classroom Use at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI
on April 11-12, 1983. The participants will divide into workgroups which will
prepare guidelines and suggestions for the collection and organization of his-
torical materials useful in the classroom, and will begin to develop three
samples of such materials. It is hoped to present a report of these activities
at an NCTM meeting to be held in Detroit immediately afterwards. The cost is
$15. per person to cover the cost of the dinner and of duplicating costs;
participants make their own accommodation arrangements. Contact Prof. Phillip
S. Jones, Mathematics Department, University of Michigan, Angell Hall, Ann
Arbor, MI   48109.

83.7 JOINT SESSION WITH THE CANADIAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

The editor has just received further details on the proposed joint CMS-
CSHPM session. It will be on June 4 at 1:00 p.m. in the Robson Media Centre.
Up to three hours will be set aside for talks on Euler and his contemporaries,
although papers on any aspect of the history of mathematics will be considered.
Earlier in the day, there will be an invited talk on the history of functional
analysis by E.O. Kreyszig of the University of Windsor.

It is important that anyone interested in attending or contribution to
this session contact Prof. L. Berggren, Department of Mathematics, Simon Fraser
University, Vancouver, B.C.   V5A 1S6.   BEFORE APRIL 15.

SMC-SCHPM SYMPOSIUM COMMUN POUR LA COMMENDATION

DU 200$^{\grave{e}me}$ ANNIVERSAIRE DE LA MORT D'EULER

La Société Mathématique du Canada et la Société Canadienne pour l'Histoire
et la Philosophie des Mathématiques offriront un symposium pour commémorer
le 200eme anniversaire de la mort de Leonhard Euler. Le symposium aura lieu
au "Robson Square Media Centre" à Vancouver le 4 Juin, entre 13 h 00 et 16 h 00.
Les organisateurs invitent les communications surtout sur les travaux d'Euler
et ses contemporains, mais les communications sur n'importe quel aspect de
l'histoire des Mathématiques peuvent être acceptées.

Les résumés des communications doivent être envoyés à Dr. J.L. Berggren,
Department of Mathematics, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C., V5A 1S6
avant le 15 Avril.