

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

## NEWSLETTER

News of significant events, personal items, notice of important publications, expressions of opinion are earnestly solicited. Please send all material to Professor E.J. Barbeau, B201, University College, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1.

80.1 1980 ANNUAL MEETING: June 3-5 in Montreal.

Here is the broad outline of the 1980 CSHPM/SCHPM meeting:

Please send your titles to the Programme Chairman, L. Charbonneau, Dept. Math., U.Q.A.M., C.P. 8888, Succ.A, Montreal, P.Q. H3C 3P8. tel. 514-282-7868.

June 3: 10:10-12:30 Session on the History of Mathematics in Canada  
M. L'Abbe "Montreal and Mathematics in Quebec and Canada"  
G. de B. Robinson "Mathematics Today at Toronto"

This will be a joint session with the Canadian Mathematical Society. Other papers on this subject are especially welcome.

2:00-3:00 Papers  
3:00-6:00 Session on "Topos" also joint with CMS

June 4: 9:30-11:30 Papers  
12:00-2:00 "Business Meeting" - Lunch  
2:00-6:00 Papers

June 5: 9:30-11:30 Papers

80.2 SSHRCC AT THE LEARNED SOCIETIES 1980

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada is participating, as in the past, in the Learned Societies Conference 1980, which will take place at the University of Quebec at Montreal. The Council will have rooms available, staffed by program officers and directors, for meetings with conference participants. You may wish to discuss, for example, support for learned societies, Council program planning, programs of assistance and scholarly exchange - local or international, or general information about the Council.

80.3 CANADIAN SCIENCE STUDIES UNION?

On January 18-19 a meeting was held in Ottawa (funded by the SSHRCC) to consider the question of a union of the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Science, CSHPM/SCHPM, and the Canadian Society for History

of Medicine. The President, Secretary and Treasurer of our Society were invited to participate. The question was discussed, information about the state of the societies shared, and a model for union proposed. Minutes of this meeting were distributed to the executive for comment. The issue, of course, will need to be widely discussed in our Society. Some of the major advantages of a union (as proposed in the model) are maintenance of autonomy, joint newsletter, and a stronger lobbying voice with the SSHRCC. Copies of the minutes may be obtained by writing to P.C. Enros, Secretary-Treasurer, CSHPM/SCHPM, IHPST, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1

#### 80.4 HSTC BULLETIN

The History of Science and Technology of Canada Bulletin is moving from its present format as a newsletter to one as a journal. It will now include scholarly articles on the history of Canadian science, technology, medicine and mathematics. It will also continue in its newsletter function and include an expanded book review section. Inquiries may be made to: Editor, HSTC Bulletin, c/o Dept. Natural Science, Atkinson College, York University, Downsview, Ontario M3J 2R7.

#### 80.5 OCTOBER 1980 HSS, SHOT, SSSS AND PSA MEETINGS IN TORONTO

The History of Science Society, Society for History of Technology, Society for Social Studies of Science, and Philosophy of Science Association will hold their annual meetings jointly in Toronto in October 1980. Besides many other interesting sessions there will also be one on the history of mathematics. Further information on this session may be obtained from C.V. Jones, IHPST, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1. Information on the conferences may be obtained from the individual societies.

#### 80.6 GAṆITA BHĀRĀTĪ

Ganita Bhārāti is the Bulletin of the Indian Society for History of Mathematics. Volume I, Nos. 1-2 appeared in early 1979 and contains a message of goodwill from Professor J.L. Berggren, then president of CSHPM. A sample copy can be obtained for \$5 (add \$1 for airmail) payable either to R.C. Gupta or Ganita Bhārāti Bulletin. The address is Dr. R.C. Gupta, Editor, Ganita Bhārāti, Birla Institute of Technology, P.O. Mesra, Ranchi-835 215, India.

An enclosed sheet contains further information and a subscription form. A reduced rate is available to CSHPM/SCHPM members.

#### 80.7 CSHPM/SCHPM BUSINESS

Enclosed are sheet containing (a) a list of the executive and council members for the current year, (b) a treasurer's report (June 4, 1979) and (c) the minutes of the annual business meeting (June 4, 1979). The 1980 business meeting will be held at Montreal at noon on June 4.

#### 80.8 A HISTORY OF THE TORONTO MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Our president has just produced a monograph on the history of one of Canada's oldest mathematics department. Full of biographical details, personal reminiscences and photographs, it exposes the main steps in its development to its current stature. A flyer with further detail is enclosed.

G. de B. Robinson, The mathematics department in the University of Toronto (1827-1978) (U. of T. Press, 1979) (Paper \$8, Cloth \$12)

## 80.9 THE MAY FUNDS AT IHPST

A substantial bequest from K.O. May has led to the establishment of a Fund at the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto to support teaching, research and the study in the history of mathematics there. Advised by a committee consisting of C.V. Jones, E. Barbeau, C. Davis, S. Drake, B.E. Wall and M.P. Winsor, the director of the institute B. Sinclair has authorized two allocations so far.

(a) The Kenneth O. May Fellowship in the History of Mathematics. This award, tenable at IHPST, is available to a student pursuing a graduate programme in the history of mathematics. It will normally be granted for two years with the possibility of renewal for a third year. The annual stipend is \$5500 plus academic fees.

The deadline for the 1980 award is past, but the award will be given regularly in the future. Further information is obtainable from Professor C.V. Jones, The Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1

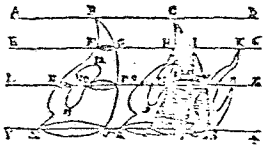
(b) The dictionary and thesaurus project. During the last decade of his life, Ken May was collecting and cataloguing definitions, mathematical terms, which he planned to compile into a dictionary and thesaurus. These he hoped would greatly ease communication and information retrieval problems in mathematics, partly by fostering a less chaotic introduction and use of terminology than at present. The advisory committee for the Fund is digesting a feasibility study it recently commissioned from P.C. Enros to determine whether the project could be completed and brought into print.

## 80.10 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION FEES

This year the Learned Societies will not be collecting our Society registration fee (\$5). We shall have to collect it ourselves. If you are planning to attend the annual meeting in Montreal would you please forward \$5 to P.C. Enros, Sec.-Treas., IHPST, Univ. Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1. Make cheques payable to Cshpm/Schpm. This fee goes towards paying for xeroxing of programmes and mailings associated with the meeting, as well as a luncheon for participants at the meetings.

## 80.11 MAY FELLOWSHIP AWARDED

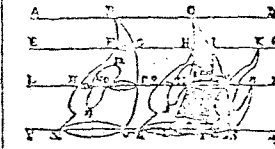
Ross Willard of Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, has been awarded the first Kenneth O. May Fellowship in the History of Mathematics at the University of Toronto. He will be enrolled as an M.A. student in the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, beginning September 1980.



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REPORT OF THE TREASURER, JUNE 4 1979

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1979-80

President (1979-80)

G. De B. Robinson  
D. of Mathematics  
Univ. Toronto  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5S 1A1

Vice President (1979-80)

H. Lehman  
D. of Philosophy  
Univ. Guelph  
Guelph, Ontario  
N1G 2W1

Secretary-Treasurer (1979-80)

P.C. Enros  
Inst. Hist. & Phil. Sci. & Tech.  
Univ. Toronto  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5S 1A1

Past President (1979-80)

J.L. Berggren  
D. of Mathematics  
Simon Fraser Univ.  
Burnaby, B.C.  
V5A 1S6

Council Members

V. Eyers (1978-80)  
D. of Mathematics  
Concordia Univ.  
7141 Sherbrooke ST. W.  
Montreal, P.Q.  
H4B 1R6

L. Charbonneau (1979-81)  
D. Mathematiques  
Univ. du Quebec a Montreal  
C.P. 8888, Succ. A  
Montreal, P.Q.  
H3C 3P8

M. Closs (1979-81)  
D. of Mathematics  
Univ. Ottawa  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1N 9B4

E.J. Barbeau (1979-81)  
D. of Mathematics  
Univ. Toronto  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5S 1A1

Credits

1978 Balance	1144.94	
Dues & Subscriptions	951.00 + US226.	
Univ. W.O. Registrations	160.00	
Other	178.38	
		total: \$2434.32 + US226.

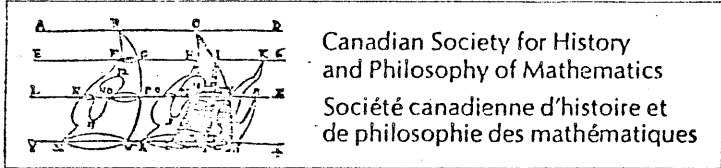
Debits

Office Supplies	2.95	
Printing	81.20	
Postage	43.82	
Subscriptions	631.00 + US226.	
Other	4.50	
		total: \$ 763.47 + US226.
		grand total: \$1670.85

Accounts (Universities and Colleges Credit Union (Toronto) Limited  
245 College St.)

Chequing Account #1378921	\$679.16
Special Deposit Account #137892.17	\$991.69
	total: \$1670.85

*Philip Enros.*  
Philip C. Enros  
Treasurer, cshpm/schpm



Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology

University of Toronto  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5S 1A1

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

1979 JUNE 4TH

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, SASKATOON.

1. Call to order The meeting was called to order by President J.L. Berggren at 11:45 am. A quorum was present.
2. Closing of the polls The President asked that all ballots for the election of Officers and Council Members be deposited with the Secretary. Art Miller and Roy Ryden were appointed tellers.
3. Agenda The proposed agenda was adopted.
4. Minutes The minutes for the 1978 Annual Business Meeting were approved as distributed.
5. Reports (a) President President Berggren expressed thanks to Secretary Jones for his service to the Society; the coming year will be the first year he has not held an office since the Society was organized. He also informed the Society that Jones had been appointed as the historian of mathematics at the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto. President Berggren also acknowledged with gratitude the service of Philip Enros who has acted quite successfully as Program Chairman for the past two years; the other members of the Program Committee for this meeting: Louis Charbonneau, G. Thomas, and Hugh Lehman. Thanks were expressed to Ed Barbeau for the Newsletter; to Iswar Chakravartty (chairman) and Bill Higginson, the Nominating Committee. President Berggren reported on a letter sent on behalf of the Society to Andre Fortier of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), who had asked for suggestions on how to organize research under SSHRC to focus on areas in which Canadians have special competence. President Berggren suggested areas dealing with the Canadian scientific experience and its preservation. The President also reported an announcement of a new journal, Bulletin of the Indian Society for History of Mathematics, with R.C. Gupta as editor. Charter subscriptions are \$5 (before July 1) payable to Ganita Bharati Bulletin ISHM [Send care of Birla Institute of Technology, P.O. Mesra, Ranchi 835 215].  
(b) Treasurer Treasurer Enros circulated a report showing an increase in the treasury mostly due to there having been no Executive Council meeting. There has been a drop in membership due to complications with subscriptions for Historia Mathematica, but these appear to be now cleared up.  
(c) Program Chairman Enros expressed his thanks to Professors Lalli and Cuttle of the University of Saskatchewan Mathematics Department for acting as local representatives for the Society.  
(d) Secretary Jones expressed his thanks to the members of the Society for their support and cooperation during the past six years. He

also apologized for having left his report in Toronto (but it is here presented).

(e) Publications Committee Michael Closs had provided a written report which the secretary read. In summary: With the help of Viktors Linis, the monograph project and symposium on the development of mathematics in Canada was publicized in the Fall of 1978 but only one response (from Dirk Struik) has been received. Hence, a three-stage strategy using direct solicitations for three monographs has been adapted: first, pre-European mathematics; second, colonial mathematics; third, post confederation. (This sequence was adopted because 1) it is chronological, 11) first volume will be easily published since not confined to present political borders, 111) first stage is Closs's area of expertise.) Encouraging replies have been received from Ali Amir-Moez (Texas Tech.), Marcia Ascher (Ithaca Coll.), J. Peter Denny (U. of W. Ont.), Floyd G. Lounsbury (Yale), Stanley E. Payne (Miami U.), Paul J. Campbell (Beloit Coll.), and Roy Wright (Peterborough). In September, SSHRC will be approached for support in publishing this volume. A similar procedure is recommended for the second volume beginning in late 1979 or early 1980. Some members of the Society have already volunteered contributions: Louis Charbonneau, Philip Enros, Norman T. Gridgeman, and William Higginson. At an unspecified later date, the third volume could be commenced, working from volunteered contributions from members J.L. Berggren, Charles V. Jones, Viktors Linis, M.A. Malik, G. de B. Robinson.

Closs recommended that the previously adopted plan for a 1980 conference on the history of mathematics in Canada (see item 5, 1978 minutes) be postponed. Instead an international conference, at a setting such as the Indian Federated College in Regina, be planned for 1980, under the auspices of the Society but not in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. Speakers would be contributors to the first volume plus other 20 minute papers and a symposium grant would be sought. Discussion: Fall of 1980 will see the History of Science Society meetings in Toronto. The SSHRC has had a policy of providing only travel funds. Motion: The actions of Chairman Closs be endorsed with a caution against the committee committing any funds from the Society. Action: Carried.

6. Election The tellers reported the following were elected: Robinson, president; Lehman, vice president; Enros, secretary and treasurer; Barbeau, Charbonneau, and Closs, council members.

7. Unfinished Business K.O. May Lecture Fund. Secretary Jones (having left these records in Toronto as well) provides the following report on the K.O. May Lecture Fund: Balance from 1978 \$586.20; Contributions and sale of books donated by Springer-Verlag \$249.50; Interest \$57.13; Balance in Savings Account \$892.83. The Secretary made a plea for more support for the fund in order to attain a principal of \$2500 from which to support an annual lecture in the history of mathematics.

8. H.M. Gupta (Regina) reported that the German Democratic Republic (DDR) library wished to exchange a journal for Historia Mathematica. A list of journals offered for exchange is available from Prof. Gupta.

9. Announcements A meeting of the new Executive Council was to follow the invited talk. Complimentary copies of Karen Reich's Carl Friedrich Gauss: 1777/1977 were available to all in attendance, courtesy of the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Toronto. Their generosity was acknowledged with gratitude.

10. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles V. Jones, Secretary

GANITA BHĀRATĪ Subscriptions

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CSHPM/SCHPM members may obtain a 20% discount on subscriptions to the Bulletin of the Indian Society for History of Mathematics. This offer is now available for vol. 1 (1979). The ordinary rate is \$10, our members may receive it for \$8. If you would like to receive the Bulletin please fill in the following and return it to P.C. Enros, Sec.-Treas., CSHPM/SCHPM, IHPST, Univ. Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A1, along with a cheque for \$8 made out to CSHPM/SCHPM.

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Name:

Address:

I would like to receive Vol. 1 (1979) of GANITA BHĀRATĪ. I enclose a cheque for Can\$8.

If you would like a receipt please fill in the following and enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.

1980

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Received from

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\$8.00 for a subscription to Ganita Bhāratī vol. 1.

Philip C. Enros  
Sec.-Treas. CSHPM/SCHPM