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The November Meeting of the Indiana Section

Charles Brumfiel (Secretary)

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REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR THE YEAR 1958

Following is a summary of the report of Professor H. M. Gehman as Treasurer of the Association for the year 1958. The complete report has been approved by the Finance Committee and accepted by vote of the Board of Governors. Any member of the Association who wishes the complete report of the Treasurer may obtain it by writing to the Buffalo office of the Association.

There was a surplus of \$5,701 in the Current Fund of the Association for 1958. The balances in the regular funds of the Association have increased during 1958 except for the Chace Fund. The cost of printing Slaughter Papers and the third edition of Professional Opportunities in Mathematics has caused a small decrease in this fund.

ASSETS OF THE ASSOCIATION	JANUARY 1, 1958	DECEMBER 31, 1958
M & T Trust Co., Buffalo.....	\$ 25,703.17	\$ 19,687.37
Savings Accounts.....	75,999.51	108,363.39
Securities.....	100,974.12	169,620.23
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	\$202,676.80	\$297,670.99
FUNDS OF THE ASSOCIATION		
Current Fund.....	\$ 325.80	\$ 1,027.14
Carus Fund.....	20,235.25	26,706.76
Chace Fund.....	8,808.28	8,760.58
Houck Fund.....	11,309.92	13,832.45
Chauvenet Fund.....	1,328.43	1,620.95
Dunkel Fund.....	15,889.55	19,451.65
General Fund.....	38,414.63	51,428.83
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 96,311.86	\$122,918.26
Visiting Lecturers Fund.....	\$ 48,424.53	\$ 38,285.38
Fund for Committee on Undergraduate Program.....	55,669.95	88,691.79
Fund for Committee on Films.....	85.66	—
Fund for Committee on High School Contests.....	2,184.80	427.34
Washington Conference Fund.....	—	2,337.42
Survey of Non-Teaching Mathematical Employment.....	—	1,218.43
Secondary School Lecturers Fund.....	—	16,054.92
Fund for Committee on Production of Films.....	—	27,827.45
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	\$202,676.80	\$297,670.99

THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE INDIANA SECTION

The Fall meeting of the Indiana Section of the Mathematical Association of America was held at Marian College, Indianapolis, on November 6, 1958. The program was as follows:

Professor Judah Rosenblatt of Purdue University gave a one hour lecture on *Statistics and Aircraft Warning Systems*.

Professor Charles Brumfiel of Ball State Teachers College reported on the 13th annual national T.E.P.S. conference at Bowling Green State University.

Professor J. C. Polley, Wabash College, described the activities of the Indiana School and College Committee on Mathematics.

A panel composed of Professors Charles Brumfiel, Melvin Henriksen of Purdue University, Donald Lewis of the University of Notre Dame, and George Whaples of Indiana University, and moderated by Professor Merrill Shanks of Purdue University, discussed proposals of the M.A. A. Committee on the Undergraduate Program.

CHARLES BRUMFIEL, *Secretary*

THE JANUARY MEETING OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Northern California Section of the Mathematical Association of America was held at Stanford University, January 17, 1959. Professor B. J. Lockhart, Chairman of the Section, presided at the morning session and Professor G. C. Preston, Vice-Chairman of the Section, presided at the afternoon session. There were 134 persons in attendance, including 96 members of the Association.

At the business meeting the following officers were elected for the coming year: Chairman, Professor G. C. Preston, San Jose State College; Vice-Chairman, Professor S. P. Hughart, Sacramento State College; Secretary-Treasurer, Professor Roy Dubisch, Fresno State College.

By invitation of the section, Professor J. L. Snell, Dartmouth College and Stanford University, delivered an address at the morning session entitled *Markov Chains and Their Applications*. An abstract of this address follows:

Recent applications of mathematics to the social sciences have given a renewed interest to the study of finite Markov chains. A procedure developed with J. G. Kemeny for systematically computing many of the basic descriptive quantities for a Markov chain was described. A discussion of some of the new applications of Markov chains was given.

At the end of the afternoon session a panel discussion was held by the newly-appointed Committee to Study the Activities of the Section consisting of Professor David Blakeslee, Chairman, Professors Henry Alder, Roy Dubisch, Harley Flanders, J. G. Herriot, Marjorie Hoffman, Brooks Lockhart, G. C. Preston, and Messrs. Kenneth Skeen and E. H. Swift. Some of the topics discussed were: The type of program most desirable for the regular meetings; what can we do to cooperate more fully with other organizations; the possibility of joint meetings with the California Mathematics Council; what would constitute the most workable executive committee; should we continue the lectureship program; should dues be collected and activities increased; should we issue a bulletin; how can we best extend our activities to include Hawaii; how can we cooperate with the Academy of Science in planning mathematics projects; and how can we work for the improvement of instruction in high schools.

Also, at this time, reports were given on the high school contest and lectureship program.

The following papers were presented:

1. *Acceptability in mathematics*, by Professor C. C. Torrance, U. S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey.

Is it *necessary* that a method be "logical" for it to be acceptable? Is it *sufficient* that a method produce "the right answer" for it to be acceptable? It is claimed here that the answer to both questions is *no*; consequent difficulties are discussed, and a method of resolution is indicated.

2. *Medial quasigroups*, by Professor D. A. Norton, University of California, Davis.

A short review of the concept of mediality, its significance and elementary properties.

3. *Roots and canonical forms of compound matrices*, by Dr. C.M. Ablow and Dr. J. L. Brenner, Stanford Research Institute.

Let A be a matrix in which the i th row R_i is obtained by applying the $(i-1)$ th power of a permutation P to the sequence of elements $\{a_j\}_1^n$ of the first row. If P is the circular permutation of