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"SOME STOCHASTIC PROBLEMS IN PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS"

BY PROFESSOR MARK KAC THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE These lecture notes were transcribed from the tape recordings by Dr. M. R. Foster of the Field Research Laboratory, Socony Mobil Oil Co., Inc., Dallas, Texas. The transcript was reviewed and edited by Professor Kac. Dr. S. M. Foulks and Dr. S. R. Faris prepared the final manuscript for printing.

INTRODUCTION

These notes were prepared from tape recordings with comparatively little editing. They furnish once again a conclusive proof that the arts of speaking and writing are vastly different and, perhaps, even incompatible. In writing one doesn't have the recourse to the most powerful instrument of a speaker—the use of hands. In speaking one cannot conveniently refer to the learned and amusing treatise of Mr. Fowler on the proper usage of English.

If the only price for preservation of the immediacy of a live lecture is the number of split infinitives and garbled or unfinished sentences, then perhaps it is worth paying.