

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MATHEMATICIANS AT ZURICH.

THE call issued last spring for an International Congress of Mathematicians, to be held at Zurich in August of the past summer, was responded to by two hundred mathematicians, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, *France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland* and the United States being represented. Three-fourths of the total number of participants were from the countries whose names appear in italics, the contingent from each of these countries numbering over a dozen.

The Congress opened with a reception Sunday evening, 8 August. The first general session was held on Monday, 9 August, at 9 A. M., in the hall of the Polytechnic Institute and was opened by Professor Geiser, of Zurich. The Congress chose the following executive board :

President : Professor C. Geiser, of Zurich. *General Secretaries* : Professor F. Rudio and Professor J. Franel, of Zurich. *Secretaries to represent respectively the German, the French, the Italian and the English languages* : Dr. E. von Weber, of Munich ; Professor E. Borel, of Paris ; Professor V. Volterra, of Turin ; and Professor J. Pierpont, of Yale University. *Members at Large of the Board* : Professor F. Klein, of Göttingen ; Professor H. Poincaré, of Paris ; Professor E. Picard, of Paris ; Professor F. Brioschi, of Milan ; Professor F. Mertens, of Vienna ; Professor G. Mittag-Leffler, of Stockholm ; Professor H. Weber, of Strassburg ; and Dr. E. W. Hobson, of Christ's College, Cambridge.

The papers announced for this session were an address by Professor Poincaré : "On the reciprocal relations existing between pure analysis and mathematical physics ;" a report from the Committee by Professor Rudio : "On the functions and the organization of international mathematical congresses ;" and an address by Professor Hurwitz : "Modern development of the general theory of functions." Professor Poincaré was prevented from attending the Congress ; his paper was read by Professor Franel. Professor Rudio pointed out some of the more important ends that international congresses may serve. Personal intercourse between mathematicians of different countries would be promoted and a better understanding of one another's work would be attained. The historical development and