THE SECOND ITHACA COLLOQUIUM*

The tenth colloquium of the American Mathematical Society and the second Ithaca Colloquium was held at Ithaca, N.Y., in conjunction with the thirty-first summer meeting of the Society on September 8-12, 1925.

Tied as we are to the decimal system of notation, the attainment of a tenth in any sequence is in the nature of the passing of a milestone. So it might be interesting to give in this connection a brief summary of the colloquia which have been held by the Society up to the present time.†

The colloquium idea was an outgrowth of the desire on the part of members of the Society to hear more extensive treatments of some of the recent developments of the science than can be given in the brief papers which are read at regular meetings of the Society. It was originally planned to hold these colloquia annually, but experience seems to have shown that a larger interval was better. They have been held at intervals of from two to five years, but the plan is to hold them at intervals of not more than two years in the future.

The main facts concerning the first ten colloquia are as follows.‡

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* A report prepared by Professor T. H. Hildebrandt at the request of the Secretary of the Society and the editors of this BULLETIN.

† A résumé of the first five colloquia is to be found in the report of V. Snyder on *The Fifth Colloquium*, this BULLETIN, vol. 13 (1906-7) pp. 72-73. Material covering the first seven is contained in the preface to the volume of *Madison Colloquium Lectures*. See also the list of colloquium lectures published by this Society, on the inside of the front cover of this number.

‡ Perhaps the Evanston Colloquium, held on August 28 to September 9, 1893, should count as the *zeroth* or as the *preliminary* colloquium. Although it was not held under the auspices of this Society (which was not yet existent as such), the Society did acknowledge its interest and indebtedness by republishing the lectures in 1911 (reported by A. Ziwet and first published in 1893).