

A LIST OF ERRORS IN TABLES OF THE  
PELL EQUATION

BY D. H. LEHMER

Five tables of solutions of the Pell equations

(1)  $x^2 - Ay^2 = 1$ ,

(2)  $x^2 - Ay^2 = -1$ ,

have been published giving solutions\* from  $A = 2$  to  $A = 1700$ . Arranged in chronological order these tables are as follows:

1. A. M. Legendre, *Théorie des Nombres*, Paris, 1798, Table xii.
2. C. F. Degen, *Canon Pellianus etc.*, Copenhagen, 1817.
3. A. M. Legendre, *Théorie des Nombres*, 3d ed., 1830, Table x.
4. C. E. Bickmore, BRITISH ASSOCIATION REPORT, vol. 53 (1893), p. 73.
5. E. E. Whitford, *The Pell Equation*, New York, 1912, p. 102.

The scope of each of the tables is as follows:

- 1, 3 Legendre,  $A = 2$  to 1003. Gives solutions of (2) when possible, otherwise of (1).
2. Degen,  $A = 2$  to 1000. Gives solutions of (1) and also of (2) when possible.
4. Bickmore,  $A = 1001$  to 1500. Gives solutions of (2) when possible, otherwise of (1).
5. Whitford,  $A = 1501$  to 1700. Gives solutions of (1) and also of (2) when possible.

A detailed account of these tables together with a list of errors in Legendre's and Degen's tables is included in an article by A. J. C. Cunningham.† This list, obtained

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\* In the present paper, by "solution" we mean "fundamental solution."

† MESSENGER OF MATHEMATICS, vol. 46, p. 49.