

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN OSLO

The International Congress of Mathematicians of 1936 was held in Oslo, Norway, July 13–18. The Congress was officially opened Monday evening, July 13, with a reception to the members of the Congress by the Rector of the University, in the festival hall of the University. The Rector was represented by Poul Heegaard, Dean of the Faculty of Science.

The inaugural meeting was held Tuesday morning, July 14, in the presence of H. M. the King in the festival hall of the University. The inaugural address was delivered by Professor C. Störmer, president of the organizing committee, and the official address of welcome was given by a representative of the government. The American delegation was particularly honored at this inaugural meeting in that two young men on the staffs of American universities were the recipients of medals offered by the late Professor Fields and which, according to the report of the Zurich Congress, are to be awarded to two mathematicians at intervals of four years by the International Congresses. The committee chosen at the Zurich Congress to name the recipients of the medals to be awarded in 1936 was composed of Professors Severi (chairman), Birkhoff, Carathéodory, Cartan, and Takagi. In the absence of Professor Severi, Professor Cartan took the chair. Professor Carathéodory spoke concerning the work of Professor Lars V. Ahlfors of Harvard University and Professor Jesse Douglas of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who were awarded the two Fields medals for outstanding achievement in mathematics.

Approximately five hundred mathematicians, representing thirty-two countries, were registered at the Congress. The total registration including families numbered over seven hundred. Of this number one hundred twenty-eight were from this country, and thirteen from Canada. The official delegates were Professors Eisenhart (chairman), Birkhoff, Blichfeldt, Lefschetz, Morse, Snyder, Veblen, and Wiener. The attendance included the following eighty-seven members of the American Mathematical Society:

L. V. Ahlfors, R. C. Archibald, H. T. R. Aude, I. A. Barnett, Harry Bate-