

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MATHEMATICIANS

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A., SEPTEMBER 4-12, 1940

On invitation by the American Mathematical Society, an International Congress of Mathematicians will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1940.

Former Congresses. In connection with the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 there was an International Congress of Mathematicians. The first congress in Europe was held at Zürich in 1897, and the most recent one met in Oslo in 1936. In the interim, with a few omissions necessitated by the World War, there have been sessions about once every four years. These have all been in Europe except for that of 1924, which was held at the University of Toronto with the financial support of the province and the Dominion.

At recent congresses, the number of countries represented has been about 40, the number of members about 600, and the number of short papers submitted about 250.

Time and place. The dates of the Congress have been fixed as September 4-12, 1940. The Society will omit its usual summer meeting in 1940. Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will be the local hosts of the Congress. Some neighboring institutions will join in the hospitality, but all institutions in the United States and Canada are invited to consider themselves as participants. Mathematicians so desiring will be housed in the Harvard University dormitories at modest rates, and meals will be served at cost in the University dining rooms. There will be accommodations for members of families, special provision being made for the care of children. Those who prefer to live in hotels can be comfortably provided for in Cambridge or Boston. It is expected that the Society will be able to furnish room and board without charge for a considerable number of foreign guests during the week that they are in Cambridge. In connection with the Harvard Tercentenary, the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America met in Cambridge in September, 1936. There is no need of assuring any of the 800 people who were present then that excellent arrangements will be made for the Congress.

Organization. Plans for the scientific features of the Congress are well under way. Following precedent, there will be a score of invited addresses, each of an hour's length, and sectional meetings for the presentation of short papers.

An innovation will be conferences, somewhat after the pattern of