THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MATHEMATICIANS

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A., August 30–September 6, 1950

An International Congress of Mathematicians will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1950 under the auspices of the American Mathematical Society. The Society originally planned to act as host for a Congress in September, 1940, which was also scheduled to meet in Cambridge. At the 1936 Congress in Oslo, Norway, the invitation for the 1940 Congress was issued by the American delegation in the name of the American Mathematical Society. Plans for the 1940 Congress were practically completed when the outbreak of World War II in September, 1939, made it necessary for the Society to postpone the Congress to a more favorable date. An Emergency Committee was established to carry on in the interim and, on recommendation of this Committee, the Council of the Society voted to hold the Congress in 1950.

The 1950 Congress will be the third International Congress of Mathematicians to be held on the continent of North America. The first was held at Northwestern University in 1893 and the second at the University of Toronto in 1924. International Congresses were held at intervals of approximately four years, except when war intervened, until 1936. There has been no international gathering of mathematicians since that time and it is the sincere hope of the Organizing Committee that the gathering in 1950 will be a truly international one, that American mathematicians will attend in large numbers, and that all other countries will be well represented. The council of the American Mathematical Society has voted unanimously to hold a Congress which will be open to mathematicians of all national and geographical groups.

Time and Place. The dates for the Congress have been fixed as August 30-September 6, 1950. Harvard University will be the principal host institution. A number of other institutions in metropolitan Boston will join in the entertainment of Congress visitors by arranging special features on their campuses.

Type of Congress. In recent years mathematicians have been much impressed by the success of the conference method for presenting recent research in fields where vigorous advances have just been made or are in progress. In view of the success of mathematical conferences on special topics which have been held in Russia, France and Switzer-land and, more recently, at the Princeton Bicentennial Celebration,