

THE ANNUAL MEETING IN HOUSTON

The sixty-second Annual Meeting of the American Mathematical Society was held at The Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, December 27–29, 1955, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Mathematical Association of America on Friday, December 30. The attendance was nearly 400, including 265 members of the Society.

The twenty-ninth Josiah Willard Gibbs Lecture was delivered by Professor J. E. Mayer of the University of Chicago on Tuesday at 8:00 P.M. Professor Mayer's lecture was entitled *The structure of simple fluids*. Presiding officer at the session, held in the Auditorium of the Prudential Insurance Company, was President William V. Houston of The Rice Institute.

The Presidential Address was delivered by Professor G. T. Whyburn of the University of Virginia on Wednesday at 10:30 A.M. with Professor R. L. Wilder presiding. Professor Whyburn's topic was *Topological analysis*. Professor R. L. Moore was in the audience and Professor Wilder took the opportunity to pay him appropriate tribute.

By invitation of the Committee to Select Hour Speakers for Annual and Summer Meetings, Professor S. S. Chern of the University of Chicago addressed the Society on *Complex vector bundles*. Professor Deane Montgomery presided at the lecture.

There were a total of fourteen sessions at which contributed papers were presented. Presiding officers at these various sessions were Professors H. M. MacNeille, J. J. Gergen, W. T. Scott, F. B. Jones, E. F. Beckenbach, L. C. Young, R. H. Bing, H. F. Bohnenblust, H. E. Bray, C. B. Allendoerfer, R. M. Thrall, G. R. MacLane, Dr. John Todd and Mr. Michael Goldberg.

There was a banquet in The Rice Institute Commons on Wednesday at 6:30 P.M., a banquet unique in the recent history of the Society both for the caliber of the food and the quality of the speeches. Professor Wilder, the President of the Society, acted as Toastmaster and introduced President William V. Houston of The Rice Institute. President Houston was followed by President W. L. Duren, Jr. of the Mathematical Association of America. A resolution of thanks to The Rice Institute was read by Dr. L. W. Cohen of the National Science Foundation.

On Thursday afternoon there was a trip to a refinery of the Humble Oil and Refining Company and a number of the visiting mathemati-