

greater degree than is shown by the March curve presented.

Shown by a small circle upon the growth curves is the first appearance of any "vitamin-lack" symptoms. In each case the symptoms appeared first in the chicks given untreated milk, but not at a period enough earlier to have any especial significance. The results did show however that "winter" milk, at least, does not possess sufficient vitamins to prevent the appearance of symptoms of vitamin lack in the chick. Nevertheless, it is equally shown that the use of formaldehyde had no deleterious effect upon the growth processes. The results of a future test in which it is planned to compare the results obtained with pasteurized milk with those from the use of milk treated with formaldehyde should prove of interest.

If it can be shown that the use of formaldehyde in proper amounts does not have a harmful effect upon milk, it would seem that the question of preserving the milk from the dairy to the home would be much simplified, with the possibility that such treatment would be less harmful than the process of pasteurization.

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### AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

THE two hundred and thirty-first regular meeting of the American Mathematical Society was held at Columbia University, New York City, on Saturday, October 27, 1923, extending through the usual morning and afternoon sessions. At the beginning of the afternoon session a paper was read, at the request of the Program Committee, by Professor Anna J. Pell, of Bryn Mawr College, on bilinear and quadratic forms in infinitely many variables.

The attendance included 68 members of the society. The secretary announced the election of 49 persons to membership in the society; 14 applications for membership were received.

The meeting was signalized by the passing from the unincorporated body known as the American Mathematical Society to a corporation of the same name, organized under the code of the District of Columbia. A revised set of by-laws was adopted, and the various legal formalities necessary to the transfer of the property were attended to. The following 31 persons constitute the Board of Trustees: J. W. Alexander, R. C. Archibald, B. A. Bernstein, G. D. Birkhoff, E. W. Brown, F. N. Cole, L. P. Eisenhart, H. B. Fine, W. B. Fite, T. C. Fry, H. E. Hawkes, Robert Henderson, H. L. Hodgkins, E. V.

Huntington, S. A. Joffe, O. D. Kellogg, E. H. Moore, W. F. Osgood, A. J. Pell, M. I. Pupin, R. G. D. Richardson, J. F. Ritt, L. P. Siceloff, C. E. Smith, D. E. Smith, W. M. Strong, H. W. Tyler, Oswald Veblen, H. S. White, J. K. Whittemore, J. W. Young.

Votes of thanks were tendered to the committee on incorporation, to the incorporators and to the lawyers who gave their services.

A committee on the first Josiah Willard Gibbs Lecture was appointed, consisting of Professors H. E. Hawkes (chairman), E. W. Brown, J. L. Coolidge and H. S. White.

The following appointments were announced: To represent the society at the inauguration of President Updegraff of Cornell College on October 19, 1923, Professor E. E. Moots; to represent the society at the inauguration of President Comstock of Radcliffe College on October 20, 1923, Professor E. V. Huntington; to represent the society at the inauguration of President Hadley of Washington University on November 10, 1923, Professor W. H. Roever.

It was voted to print both the *Bulletin* and *Transactions* of the society for the year 1924 in Hamburg.

The following papers were read at this meeting:

*Spaces of continuous matter in general relativity:* L. P. EISENHART.

*The deformation of ruled surfaces:* J. K. WHITTEMORE.

*Analytic vector functions:* G. Y. RAINICH.

*Systems of  $\infty^{2n-2}$  curves in a Riemann space in which the sum of the angles of every triangle formed by three of the curves is two right angles:* J. DOUGLAS.

*Necessary and sufficient conditions that a system of  $\infty^4$  curves in space consist of the mutual intersections of  $\infty^3$  surfaces:* J. DOUGLAS.

*On Ricci's coefficients of rotation:* J. LIPKA.

*Types of alignment charts in three variables:* J. LIPKA.

*On the mean-value theorem corresponding to a given linear homogeneous differential equation:* G. PÓLYA.

*Note on stability à la Poisson:* F. H. MURRAY.

*On infinitely connected plane regions:* J. W. ALEXANDER.

*On the deformation on an  $n$ -cell:* J. W. ALEXANDER.

*On the reality of the zeros of a  $\lambda$ -determinant:* R. G. D. RICHARDSON.

*Sets of completely independent postulates for cyclic order:* E. V. HUNTINGTON.

*Some corollaries of Bernstein's theorem:* D. JACKSON.

*Theory of generalized differentiation:* E. L. POST.

The society will hold two meetings in the last week in December: the annual meeting, in New York City on December 27-28, and its twentieth western meeting, in Cincinnati, in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science on December 28-29.

R. G. D. RICHARDSON,  
Secretary.