A mathematician embarking on neutron transport theory work will much benefit, of course, from a reasonable familiarity with the above methods as well as with the general theory of integral equations. This will normally be found at the Ph.D. or at least at the M.Sc., rather than at the B.Sc. level. Also it will normally be found in those specializing in analysis or in numerical methods, rather than in abstract algebra, or theory of numbers, say. At the same time a man's ability is, of course, much more important that his background.

Computation Centre
University of Toronto.

RANDOM NOTES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Benjamin Franklin says "three moves are as bad as a fire". We have now accomplished two moves and hope we won't have the fire in which case our work will be more disorganized than it is now. As the work of the Congress has increased, we have been in need of more and more space. We have now, thanks to our colleague Henri Gaudefroy, Director of the Ecole Polytechnique, and the Ecole Polytechnique board, two very commodious rooms in their new eleven million dollar building. We also have an attractive room in the Chemistry Building at McGill, thanks to Herbert Tate, Professor Winkler (Chairman of the Chemistry Department), and the McGill administration and governors. While there is some inconvenience in having offices four miles apart, we hope so to divide our work between the two foci of the Congress as to carry it on without more than the ordinary confusion.

Lee Ritcey (see Volume 1, No.2, page 144 and No. 3, page 216) began his work as associate executive secretary-treasurer of the Congress on September 1st. Let me say first of all that the confusion mentioned above is due to our recent move and to myself, and in no way to Dr. Ritcey and Mrs. Baker, both of whom have done their best to keep things on an even keel. As money - and I am sorry to take a materialistic view here - is one of the foundation stones on which the success of the Congress is built, his first task has been to visit a great many companies, particularly in Montreal and Toronto, soliciting funds, finding new subscribers and obtaining increased subscriptions from old subscribers. I am glad to report that he has had a good deal of success under somewhat difficult circumstances.

The Ritceys have moved in and gone to work without fuss and feathers. We do wish, however, to show our appreciation of them and give them a formal welcome, and are planning a reception at the Cercle Universitaire on December 9. In addition to members

of the Mathematical staffs of the Montreal institutions including the Collège Militaire Royal de St. Jean, we hope to have the president of the Congress and at least some of the ex-presidents join us on that occasion.

The preliminary announcement of next summer's seminar should go out before too long; but one important piece of news is that Donald Coxeter has consented to be one of the instructional lecturers. He is to lecture at St. Andrew's in the early part of the summer and says he expects to have his cake and eat it too by linking this appointment with the lectureship at our summer seminar. A delicious piece of cake, I should hope!

A good piece of news is that the International Nickel Company is giving a substantial contribution in support of the Alberta Summer Institute for Mathematics in 1959, and another good piece of news is that the Sun Life Insurance Company is increasing its subscription to $3,000 beginning next year. They are much interested in the scholarship programme which we expect to institute in the Province of Quebec.

Max Wyman has been invited to speak at the symposium on "Asymptotic Expansions" at the California Institute of Technology this month. This is an excellent opportunity as he will be speaking on the topic of his next summer's seminar lectures and will be meeting several experts in that field.

It is good news that Louis and Mabel Mordell are back in Canada. You will recall that after his retirement from Cambridge, Professor Mordell spent two years as visiting professor at the University of Toronto. After spending a good deal of last year visiting and lecturing in foreign places including Ghana and Nigeria, he is back in Canada as visiting professor at Mount Allison. I hear that he will be visiting McMaster at Christmas time. No doubt his friends in Montreal and Toronto will have the pleasure of seeing him again at that time.

Our South Africa exchange fellowship programme is going on successfully. J.R. Vanstone from Toronto is now in his second year at the University of Natal (Durban) with Professor Rund. Originally we expected to award this fellowship only once every two years, but as Carl Templin, a graduate of Toronto who spent last year at the University of Wisconsin, was anxious to go out to Durban and work with Professor Rund, we awarded him a grant of £250 from our funds. He will augment this by doing a stint of teaching. We had the pleasure of having a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Templin recently as they made their way toward New York from where they were sailing for South Africa at the end of October. In turn Mr. I.Z. Bouwer of the University of Stellenbosch has arrived in Canada and has taken up his studies at the University of Toronto, especially with professor A.H. Wallace. Bouwer was appointed a year ago but decided to spend a year working with the Council

for Scientific and Industrial Research at Pretoria. He was able to do a good deal of reading during his year there and comes well prepared. Bouwer had a fine opportunity of seeing quite a bit of North America as his ship from South Africa landed at Corpus Christi, Texas. We were very glad to have him with us in Montreal for a few days.

Hans Zassenhaus, one of the vice-presidents of the Congress, is this year at the California Institute of Technology as visiting professor. We shall miss his good cheer and enthusiasm.

I won't transgress on news from the universities to say much about the University of Toronto but I must comment on their attractive new quarters. I used as my head quarters while there Gilbert Robinson's very attractive new office. He had a very interesting trip to Australia and Japan, which I hope he will write about at some length in the Bulletin. One possible by-product of the visit to Australia may be the initiation of a post-graduate interchange between Australia and Canada similar to that we now have between South Africa and Canada. We recently had a talk about this in Toronto; those who were present, in addition to Gilbert Robinson and myself, were R.B. Potts, a Rhodes scholar of some ten years ago at Queen's College, Oxford, from South Australia, who is now on the Toronto Staff but will be returning next year to the University of Adelaide as professor; and Bill Buscombe, a Toronto graduate and Princeton Ph.D., who is on the staff of the observatory at Canberra.

Among the places I visited recently on a money raising trip to Ontario was Windsor, where I visited the Assumption University and their non-denominational college, Essex College. Father Faught, a St. Michaels and Toronto graduate, is the very active head of the Department. They are putting on a full honours course and expect to increase the mathematical staff to ten next year. Among the staff members is Hermes Eliopoulos who came to Canada several years ago from the University of Salonika. He did his graduate work at McGill and the University of Toronto, and is already, for the staff is a young one, one of the senior members of the Assumption staff.

I hope that the attention of ambitious high school teachers will be called to the new Canada Council scholarships. The scholarships are of an average value of $2,000 (plus an allowance for necessary travel by the scholar) tenable in Canada or abroad for one year, to study or do other work to improve their qualifications. Employers will be expected to make an appropriate allowance to successful candidates. The completed applications and supporting letters must reach the Canada Council by January 31, 1959.
