

Then with this condition satisfied variations of \mathbf{E} which vanish at S_0 but not at the surfaces S_i affect only the second term of U and give the condition $V = V_i$, making the potential constant over the surface of each single conductor ; and finally variations which at the surfaces S_0 are restricted only by the boundary condition (II) give the condition $V' = V''$, making the potential continuous even at surfaces where its derivatives may be discontinuous.

CHICAGO, ILL.,
May, 1908.

THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MATHEMATICIANS.

THE fourth international congress of mathematicians was held at Rome, April 6 to 11, 1908, under the efficient management of the Circolo Matematico di Palermo and under the patronage of His Majesty, the King of Italy. Including the ladies who accompanied the members of the congress, the enrollment was more than seven hundred. The list contains the names of the following Americans: Miss E. M. Coddington, H. W. Curjel, E. W. Davis, T. S. Fiske, A. B. Frizell, W. J. Graham, J. G. Hardy, E. A. Harrington, A. S. Hawkesworth, T. F. Holgate, A. Macfarlane, Artemas Martin, C. L. E. Moore, E. H. Moore, Simon Newcomb, G. D. Olds, G. B. Pegram, D. E. Smith, J. M. Van Vleck, W. D. A. Westfall.

The general order of the program provided for sectional meetings in the morning and general conferences in the afternoon. However this order was broken occasionally. The arrangements of the committee on entertainment left nothing to be desired.

The first meeting of the members of the congress was at the reception offered by Professor Tonelli, Rector of the University of Rome, Sunday evening, April 5. This was the beginning of the social part of the occasion. Those who attended the congress will always have pleasant recollections of these receptions and other entertainments. The opening reception was held in the library of the University. The Mayor of the city of Rome, Mr. Nathan, was present. Acquaintances which were to broaden during the week began here. Excellent refreshments were served, and the mathematicians showed that they were not incapable of enjoying this part of the program.