

*Berichte und Mitteilungen der Internationalen mathematischen Unterrichtskommission.* Hefte IV–VII. Teubner, Leipzig und Berlin, 1909–1911. Pp. 39–128.

THESE four pamphlets comprise the German reports of the progress and proceedings of the International Commission on the Teaching of Mathematics for the years 1909–1911. They are edited by W. Lietzmann and cover the meeting of delegates at Brussels in August, 1910, and the first international congress on the teaching of mathematics, held at Milan, in September, 1911.

We may sum up the progress which has been made by the commission up to the present year, as given in these reports, by stating that committees, well organized, are now working in twenty-three countries of the world. Under the leadership of Klein these have issued about 100 pamphlets; and many others are in preparation, in manuscript, and in press. As is well known, the plan is comprehensive and covers all fields in which mathematics is taught, from the kindergarten to the research university. Germany and France have contributed most to the literature issued. The United States has also joined in the movement and besides the four reports published in the BULLETIN there have appeared lately five other reports of special committees issued by the United States Bureau of Education. These have already been widely distributed.

The report of the proceedings of the first international congress held at Milan, at which plans were made for a meeting with the fifth international congress of mathematicians held at Cambridge, England, August, 1912, shows that eleven countries were represented by mathematicians of world-wide renown headed by Klein. The special subjects considered dealt with the emphasis placed on various methods used in the teaching of geometry, the teaching of mathematics (pure and applied) to students with major interest in the sciences, and the fusion in the teaching of the various branches of mathematics. These problems were handled in a finished and scientific manner which make the proceedings of many conferences held in this country on similar topics seem crude in comparison. However it must be said that the practical spirit of this country has already adopted and used for some time the so-called reform methods now learnedly discussed by the commission.