

THE FEBRUARY MEETING IN CHICAGO

The four hundred forty-fourth meeting of the American Mathematical Society was held at the University of Chicago, on Saturday February 26, 1947. The attendance was eighty-one, including the following seventy-seven members of the Society:

A. A. Albert, W. R. Allen, Reinhold Baer, E. W. Banhagel, S. F. Bibb, W. M. Boothby, A. J. Brandt, C. R. Cassity, Herman Chernoff, E. W. Chittenden, A. M. Christiansen, H. M. Clark, Byron Cosby, D. M. DeWitt, Flora Dinkines, John Dyer-Bennet, W. F. Eberlein, Chester Feldman, J. V. Finch, Harley Flanders, L. R. Ford, Evelyn Frank, C. G. Fry, M. P. Gaffney, David Gilbarg, S. H. Gould, L. M. Graves, L. W. Griffiths, William Gustin, M. M. Guterman, P. R. Halmos, H. L. Harter, I. N. Herstein, L. A. Hostinsky, Ralph Hull, M. M. Johnsen, Louis Joseph, D. E. Kibbey, D. D. Kosambi, M. S. Kramer, W. C. Krathwohl, M. Z. Krzywoblocki, E. P. Lane, J. S. Leech, A. W. McGaughey, Saunders MacLane, Morris Marden, J. M. Mitchell, E. J. Moulton, S. B. Myers, Leopoldo Nachbin, Zeev Nehari, E. H. Ostrow, D. W. Pounder, W. T. Reid, Haim Reingold, Herman Rubin, L. J. Savage, A. C. Schaeffer, Lowell Schoenfeld, W. T. Scott, I. E. Segal, M. A. Seybold, H. A. Simmons, Annette Sinclair, A. H. Smith, E. H. Spanier, M. P. Steele, A. F. Strehler, E. A. Trabant, E. F. Trombley, Henry Van Engen, L. R. Wilcox, R. E. Wright, L. C. Young, J. W. T. Youngs, Antoni Zygmund.

By invitation of the Committee to Select Hour Speakers for Western Sectional Meetings, Professor S. B. Myers delivered an address entitled *Normed linear spaces of continuous functions*. Professor Myers was introduced by Professor L. M. Graves of the University of Chicago. Contributed papers were presented to the Society at a session on Saturday afternoon, presided over by Professor L. R. Ford of the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Visiting mathematicians and their guests were entertained by Mrs. Saunders MacLane on Saturday afternoon following the conclusion of the session for contributed papers.

Abstracts of all papers presented at the meeting are given below. Papers read by title are indicated by the letter "t."

ALGEBRA AND THEORY OF NUMBERS

263t. Harvey Cohn: *Minkowski's conjectures on critical lattices in the metric $(|\xi|^p + |\eta|^p)^{1/p}$* .

The conjecture deals with the minimum constant c_p for which each lattice in the $\xi\eta$ -plane will necessarily have two points no further apart than $c_p A^{1/2}$ in the sense of the metric $(|\xi|^p + |\eta|^p)^{1/p}$, $p > 1$, where A is the euclidean area of the fundamental parallelogram of the lattice. The main result is that for p large enough, $c_p = 2^{1/p}(1 - \tau_p)^{1/2}/(1 + \tau_p)^{1/2}$, where τ_p is the root of $\tau_p^p + 1 = 2(1 - \tau_p)^p$. Its significance lies in the fact that it verifies, in part, some conjectures of Minkowski, other parts of which have been recently disproved. The solution is determined, in principle, by a theorem of Minkowski which in this case asserts that $c_p = \delta_p^{-1/2}$, where δ_p is the mini-