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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION  
590 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK 22 N Y

OFFICE OF  
VICE PRESIDENT

April 21, 1953

Professor S. S. Cairns  
Mathematics Department  
University of Illinois  
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Professor Cairns:

Relative to your memorandum of March 24 and the various enclosures which have reached me from the Bureau of Standards, I have reviewed the material with interest and am heartily in accord with the program proposed for this summer. My interest in seeing more work done in this field of mathematics was heightened by a visit to England, which accounts for my delay in replying to your inquiry

In the Proceedings of the Manchester Meeting almost two years ago, there are articles by M H A Newman and J C P. Miller on subjects of this same general nature which are quite challenging. I hope that we can interest more of our best mathematicians, who have an interest in these fields, to extend their horizons by considering the use of electronic computers in connection with their mathematical formulations and even their mathematical experiments in searching for new results.

I feel quite strongly that work in any field of mathematics, combined with an understanding and appreciation of what can be done with electronic computers of today, will lead to new methods and even to new organizations of the device itself for the purpose of securing results more directly or with fewer steps

As I told you at our last meeting, we should be very glad to cooperate in your course of lectures on various machine aspects of interest to your group. As soon as convenient, I would like to have a little clearer idea of just what you would like us to cover in our portion of these lectures and their timing, so that we can make suitable arrangements and be fully prepared to present our material in the clearest possible form. Tentatively we are planning to have one of our Los Angeles Applied Science representatives give the lectures

Yours very truly

  
John C. McPherson  
Vice President

JCMcP im  
cc Mr William F Friedman

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