

OBJECTIVES OF MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTION  
IN SEVEN TEXAS COLLEGES

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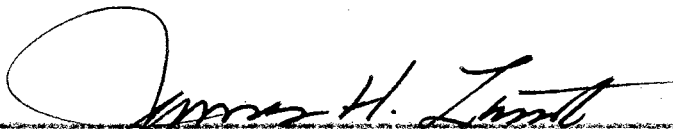
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## PREFACE

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## CHAPTER I

### THE PROBLEM

What are the objectives of freshman and sophomore mathematics courses for liberal arts colleges? Is there general agreement among experts and teachers in the field of mathematics education as to the relative values of these objectives? To what extent are these objectives being realized in certain liberal arts colleges in Texas? These questions stemmed from the writer's interest in the improvement of the college mathematics curriculum, and the present study grew out of an attempt to answer these questions which were inherent in the problem.

#### Statement of the Problem

The present study is an investigation of the objectives of the lower division mathematics courses. In particular, the study is concerned with the objectives of freshman and sophomore mathematics courses in the following Texas colleges: Bishop College of Marshall, Huston-Tillotson College of Austin, Jarvis Christian College of Hawkins, Prairie View and M College of Prairie View, Texas College of Tyler, Texas Southern University of Houston, and Wiley College of Marshall. In an effort to arrive at a solution of this

problem, the following steps were taken:

1. A list of objectives for freshman and sophomore mathematics courses was formulated.
2. The opinions of experts in mathematics education were obtained concerning the relative values of the objectives on the list.
3. The extent of agreement between the jury of experts and the mathematics teachers of the cooperating colleges was determined.
4. A test, constructed by the writer, was given to a sample of students in the seven schools.
5. Available teaching materials from these schools were examined to determine the extent of achievement of the stated objectives.

#### Need for the Study

Today colleges are not only attempting to adjust their mathematics programs to the large, heterogeneous enrollments, but are also faced with the task of re-examining their goals. Recent developments by the Russians in mathematics have focused criticism upon the mathematics programs in this country. Questions such as the following are asked: Can the mathematics objectives of the past be expected to hold top priority today? Is there substantial agreement among the curriculum makers and mathematics teachers in higher education on behavioral outcomes which should be expected of students who have taken certain mathematics courses? To what extent are the objectives which are said to be desirable being satisfactorily achieved?

This study was undertaken in an attempt to answer these questions. That such a study was needed was shown by the finding that college students and graduates are often deficient in mathematical requisites. Concerning this,

plan stated:

It would be interesting and perhaps surprising to learn the small percentage of those in college mathematics who have had any clear conception of the meanings of the mathematical words and phrases they use in their daily work.<sup>1</sup>

writing about the present status of mathematics in our schools and colleges, Duren told of the concern of industry and the federal government with the deficiencies of the American youth in mathematics. He stated:

They [leaders in industry and government] began to realize that our economic welfare and our military security were dependent upon maintaining an expanding staff of technically trained men. They began to tell the public the facts about the degeneration in the learning of science and mathematics in the schools and about the poor showing which an American youth makes in these skills compared with a European, especially a Russian youth.<sup>2</sup>

At the present time many educators are questioning the adequacy of the mathematics curriculum. Various committees have been appointed to study the problem. Van Engen said:

The Commission on Mathematics is not the only group to give thought to curriculum problems. The Committee on the Undergraduate Program of the Mathematical Association of America received its charge from the parent organization just prior to the activities of the Commission. The Secondary School Curriculum Committee of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics came into being during the year 1955. Since then similar groups in high schools and colleges have been appointed to make studies at local levels.

<sup>1</sup>F. S. Nowlan, "Objectives in the Teaching of College Mathematics," The American Mathematical Monthly, LVII (1950),

<sup>2</sup>William L. Duren, Jr., "School and College Mathematics," the Mathematics Teacher, XLIX (1956), 514.



All of this committee activity, springing from various national and local sources, could only mean that there is a general dissatisfaction with the program of the first fourteen grades and that educators feel it is time to act.<sup>3</sup>

This study was needed because in it useful information which had not been collected and analyzed previously was collected and analyzed.

This study is needed because no adequate investigation has been made of the mathematics programs and their objectives in the cooperating colleges.

In the search of the literature, it was found that several studies of a similar nature had been made. None of these studies, however, attempted to evaluate the mathematics programs, nor did any study attempt to investigate the mathematics programs of those colleges whose students were predominantly Negro. Some related studies are described below.

#### Related Studies

In 1948, Kidd reported on research done on the objective of mathematical training in the public junior college. He said that the purpose of his study was three-fold:

. . . to describe the mathematical training being provided for students in the various curricula of the public junior college, to formulate and evaluate mathematical objectives in the training of these students, and to state implications of findings for the mathematics program in the junior college.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>H. Van Engen, "Plans for the Reorganization of College Preparatory Mathematics," School Science and Mathematics, VIII (1958), 277.

<sup>4</sup>Kenneth P. Kidd, Objectives of Mathematical Training in the Public Junior College, Contribution to Education No. 94, George Peabody College for Teachers, (Nashville, 1948).

In 1957, Rowe<sup>5</sup> completed a study of "The General Mathematics for Terminal Students in California Junior Colleges" which the mathematical objectives for these students were lected and analyzed.

Research has also been done on the aims of specific hematics courses such as calculus, trigonometry and algebra. C. MacDuffee<sup>6</sup> published an article dealing with the objective a course in calculus. Schaaf<sup>7</sup> wrote about the aims in the ching of trigonometry. Brown<sup>8</sup>, reporting on the general hematics program, stated that there had been little attempt evaluate the effectiveness of courses such as algebra, gonometry, and analytic geometry in terms of their objec- es.

The writer was unable to find any studies concerning the ainment in mathematics courses of certain goals, such as ls of appreciation and the development of attitudes, habits, interests. This is perhaps due to the difficulty of

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<sup>5</sup>Jack L. Rowe, "General Mathematics for Terminal Students California Junior Colleges" (unpub. Ed. D. dissertation, versity of Colorado, 1957) p. 110.

<sup>6</sup>C. C. MacDuffee, "Objectives in Calculus," The American hematical Monthly, LIV (1947), pp. 335-337.

<sup>7</sup>William L. Schaaf, "The Teaching of Trigonometry," Mathematics Teacher, XLV (1952), pp. 445-450.

<sup>8</sup>Kenneth E. Brown, General Mathematics in American Col- es, Contributions to Education No. 893 (New York, Bureau Publications, Columbia University, 1943), pp. 150-151.

asuring these objectives. Some educators who agree with  
s view are quoted below.

Concerning this difficulty, Northrop said:

I am also impressed by the fact that only a very small  
number of writers are bold enough to question whether or  
not the objectives of mathematics in liberal education  
have yet been clearly stated; or, if stated, whether or  
not they have been measured by means of tests and exam-  
inations. Of this small group of critics, some believe  
that significant tests will eventually be found, but  
have not been found to date. A very few suspect that  
significant tests may never be found.<sup>9</sup>

r, Davis, and Johnson realized the difficulty in quantify-  
; the appraisal of certain aspects of the educational pro-  
a. In reporting on this, they said:

A sound research and appraisal program demands that we  
use both qualitative and quantitative data. . . . In  
time it may be expected that many qualitative types of  
data in education will be reduced to quantitative data.  
It is not too much to hope that in due time most of the  
so called intangibles, such as interests, attitudes,  
appreciation, loyalties, and beliefs will be quantified.  
. . . It is the complex and not readily observed traits  
and qualities that are frequently the most difficult  
to quantify.<sup>10</sup>

### Basic Assumptions

The present study assumes that the quality of the college  
mathematics program can be improved if the teachers formulate  
ve wisely the aims of the courses which they teach.

It is assumed in this study that mathematics courses

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<sup>9</sup>E. P. Northrop, "Mathematics in Liberal Education,"  
American Mathematical Monthly, LII (1945), pp. 133-134.

<sup>10</sup>A. S. Barr, Robert A. Davis, and Palmer G. Johnson,  
Educational Research and Appraisal, (Chicago, 1953), p. 10.

th the same title, although given in different schools, could generally have the same or similar aims. This is necessary if there is to be a free exchange of students among the institutions, and if the registrars and other persons concerned are to be able to adequately evaluate the students' transcripts.

Following other studies, such as the study by Madaus<sup>11</sup> and the study by Thomas<sup>12</sup>, the writer assumed that the jury technique of formulating the objectives was a valid procedure and, that a consensus thus established could be accepted as validation. Thomas said, "The jury technique of research is the most practical, if not the only, technique to use in selecting the elements which were to constitute the criterion." Madaus said, "The practicable method for conducting the study seemed to be the jury technique."

Definitions

Throughout this study, terms such as knowledge, abilities, skill, interests, attitudes, critical thinking, and concepts are used. Definitions of some of these terms are

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<sup>11</sup>Herbert S. Madaus, "Validation of Basic Principles and Criteria for Evaluating the Organization and Administration of Student-Teaching Progress," (unpub. Ed. D. dissertation, Oklahoma A and M College, 1957), p. 5.

<sup>12</sup>Archie C. Thomas, "The Development of a Criterion in the Measurement of Shorthand Transcription Production," (unpub. Ed. D. dissertation, Oklahoma A and M College, 1951), p. 12.

iven below.

Since mathematical training is just one facet of education, the definition of "mathematical objective" corresponds to that of "educational objective" as given by Bloom below.

By educational objectives, we mean explicit formulations of the ways in which students are expected to be changed by the educative process. That is, the ways in which they will change in their thinking, their feelings, and their actions.<sup>13</sup>

The terms objective, goal, and aim are used interchangeably in this study to designate the "outcomes in terms of desirable characteristics that the educational product should possess."<sup>14</sup>

Bloom<sup>15</sup> defines "knowledge" as that which includes those behaviors and test situations which emphasize the remembering, either by recognition or recall, of ideas, material, or phenomena. He said that "abilities and skills" refer to organized modes of operation and generalized techniques for dealing with materials and problems.

Throughout the literature, "critical thinking," "reasoning," and "deductive reasoning" mean essentially the same thing as "logical thinking" as defined by Smith and Tyler<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Benjamin S. Bloom, et al, Taxonomy of Educational Objectives, (New York, 1956), p. 20.

<sup>14</sup> Leo Brueckner, Encyclopedia of Educational Research, ed. Walter S. Monroe, (New York, 1950), p. 315.

<sup>15</sup> Bloom, p. 201.

<sup>16</sup> E. R. Smith and Ralph W. Tyler, Appraising and Recording Student Progress, (New York, 1942), p. 142.

he said, "Logical thinking means distinguishing between conclusions which follow logically from given assumptions and conclusions which do not follow logically from given assumptions."

"Interests" emphasize liking an activity, while "appreciation" includes liking but emphasizes insight into the activity, understanding it, realizing its true value, and the like.

Johnson<sup>17</sup> defines attitudes as "an enduring emotional set or predisposition to react in a characteristic way toward a given person, object, idea, or situation."

In speaking of the term "concept" Sobel said:

Although the literature reveals a lack of agreement concerning the exact meaning and nature of a concept, this difficulty may be avoided in the field of mathematics by operationally defining a student's concept of some particular term as the summation of a given set of responses which the student is expected to elicit at some given stage in his mathematical development. . . . Possession of the concept is assumed if the student is able to respond successfully.<sup>18</sup>

### The Purpose of the Study

Specifically, the purpose of this study was:

1. To assist the seven cooperating colleges by bringing to the attention of their mathematics departments a list of objectives thought to be important by a jury of experts in the field of mathematics education.

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<sup>17</sup>Donovan A. Johnson, "Attitudes in Mathematics Classroom," School Science and Mathematics, LVII (1957), p. 113.

<sup>18</sup>Max Sobel, "Concept Learning in Algebra," The Mathematics Teacher, XLIX (1956), p. 426.

2. To determine the extent of the success of the teachers in realizing these objectives and to apprise the teachers of the findings.
3. To assist in the improvement of the mathematics curriculum of colleges similar to the colleges of this study by making the findings of this study available to them.

#### Scope and Limitation

While this study was undertaken for the purpose of collecting and analyzing information which would contribute to the meeting of the needs mentioned above, it is not proposed that this investigation will establish the complete and final solution of these needs.

The colleges included in this study are all those colleges in Texas which are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and which are attended predominantly by Negroes. These colleges are mostly liberal arts colleges with teacher-training programs. According to the catalogues of these institutions, of the twenty-five mathematics teachers listed, two have doctor's degrees, seventeen have master's degrees, and six have bachelor's degrees. This is not a fair indication of their qualification, for twenty of the twenty-three mathematics teachers who do not have the doctoral degree have done further work toward advanced degrees.

The mathematics courses with which this study is concerned are restricted to the customary freshman and sophomore courses. These are: college algebra, trigonometry,

eneral or basic mathematics, plane analytic geometry, and differential calculus.

No attempt is made in this investigation to compare or to contrast the mathematics programs or achievements of the cooperating institutions.

It is recognized that this investigation deals with only one aspect of complete evaluation of the mathematics programs of the colleges and is, therefore, limited to the evaluation of the mathematics objectives and makes no claim of identifying other values or contributions.

#### Sources of Data

In order to accomplish the first step in the solution of the problem of this study, a survey was made of the literature dealing with the aims of higher education in general and the objectives of mathematical training in particular. The literature surveyed included books and journals in education, mathematics textbooks, college and university catalogs, mathematical journals, and published and unpublished doctoral dissertations.

The textbooks, syllabi, outlines, and bibliographies used in the mathematics courses of the cooperating colleges served as sources of data for this investigation.

The tests and examinations prepared and administered by the teachers of mathematics in the cooperating colleges in the first term of the 1957-1958 school year served as further sources of data.



The questionnaires which were completed and returned by a competent jury of experts constituted another source of data.

Further information was received from the questionnaire sent to the mathematics instructors of the seven colleges.

The examination prepared by the writer and administered to a sample of students in the cooperating colleges yielded further information used in this study.

#### Summary of Chapter I

In this chapter the author has given a statement of the problem, the need for and purposes of the study, and the sources of data as well as the scope and limitations of the problem. Furthermore, a short discussion is found in this chapter concerning the research previously done in related studies, and certain terms, whose meanings might be in doubt, are clarified.

Chapter II, which follows, deals with the procedures and methodology employed in the collection and analysis of the data.

## CHAPTER II

### METHOD AND PROCEDURE

The purpose of this chapter is to give an explanation of the steps taken by the writer in order to find a solution to the problem of the study. The methodology and procedure for obtaining the necessary information are given in this chapter. Included is a description of the methods used to formulate a questionnaire, to select a jury of experts to judge the objectives of the questionnaire, and to prepare a test administered to a sample of students. Also, this chapter deals with the collection of the data from the questionnaire sent to mathematics teachers in the seven colleges and other sources.

#### Objectives from College Catalogs

A list of objectives was formulated from the many objectives found in the search of published and unpublished materials. These sources included prefaces and introductions to textbooks, articles in mathematical journals, college and university catalogs, and doctoral dissertations.

Two hundred college, junior college, and university catalogs in the library of Oklahoma State University were examined for objectives of freshman and sophomore mathematics

ourses. Many of the catalogs did not set forth the objectives of their mathematics courses. Some of the catalogs give the objectives in the form of course content while others gave the objectives explicitly for each course. The objectives given below which were gathered from these catalogs are representative of all the objectives of the lower division mathematics courses found in the two hundred catalogs in the Oklahoma State University library.

The objectives of the Department of Mathematics of The Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina, as set forth in its catalog are the following:

1. To review and strengthen students in the basic fundamentals of mathematics in order that they may be adequately equipped for expressing or interpreting quantitative ideas in this and related areas.
2. To provide an opportunity for all students to increase their sense of utility of the subject matter by emphasizing the application of mathematical processes to problems involving personal and social living.
3. To equip the students whose interests and abilities lead to further study, research, and/or technology with an adequate mathematical background.
4. To contribute to the teaching efficiency of prospective secondary school mathematics teachers by insuring mastery of essential subject materials, and the development of a reasonable degree of skill, accuracy and speed in dealing with these materials.<sup>1</sup>

It was found in The University of Wyoming catalog that one of the three aims of teaching mathematics in college

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<sup>1</sup>Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina Bulletin, (Greensboro, 1954-1955), pp. 165-166.

s the following:

1. For its own sake
  - a) For the intellectual and aesthetic pleasure it gives.
  - b) In order to hear and read understandingly much that is said and written about today's problems.
  - c) As one of the greatest contributors to the cultural life of the race.<sup>2</sup>

The catalog of Fresno State College outlines the mathematics courses, thus indicating the desired objectives in terms of mathematical ideas and concepts to be developed. In giving objectives for mathematics in general, the catalog of Fresno State College states:

Mathematics serves as a part of general education, as an integral part of technical studies in physical science and engineering, as a foundation in other fields of study, and as a pure science for those interested in mathematics itself and for those who use it in some applied field such as statistics, economics, or actuarial work. A program of training is offered for teachers of mathematics in secondary schools.<sup>3</sup>

The aims of mathematics training in the lower division of the college as determined by the contents of the courses described in the Fresno State College catalog are:

**Trigonometry:** Concept of a function, sine and cosine functions, tables and graphs, other trigonometric functions, identities and equations, trigonometric functions of angles, solution of triangles, logarithms.

**Analytic Geometry:** Functions and their graphs, transformation of axes, straight line, curves including conic sections, parametric equations, polar coordinates

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<sup>2</sup>University of Wyoming Bulletin, (Laramie, 1955), p.330

<sup>3</sup>Fresno State College, General Catalog, (Fresno, 1957), p. 226.

Differential Calculus: Limits, theory and technique of differentiation, differentials, law of mean, applications.<sup>4</sup>

The University of Chicago stated through its catalog that the major aims of its one-year course (Math. A, B, C) are:

. . . to train the student in the elements of scientific discourse and their use in the statement, organization, and communication of ideas (logic, deductive theories); mathematical thinking (abstraction, symbolic expression structure of mathematical systems); and to supply him with certain concepts, facts, and methods basic to exact science (relations and functions, number systems, analytic geometry, trigonometry).

The major aim of Math. 150 (A, B, C) is to train the student in the fundamentals of differential and integral calculus; the course being organized around the concept of limit with the aim of giving the student good understanding of the concept and its place in calculus.<sup>5</sup>

At Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, the objectives of "Introduction to College Mathematics" are:

. . . to explain (1) how the various branches of mathematics originated; and (2) how they have been and are now being used in the development of man's civilization. This includes the meaning and application of the sine, cosine, and tangent functions, the meaning and application of logarithms, and the fundamentals of mathematics of finance.

College Algebra: A review of elementary operations followed by a study of the function concept, logarithms, quadratic functions and equations, equations of higher degree, and complex numbers.

Trigonometry: An elementary treatment of the trigonometric functions which continues with a graphical discussion of the right triangle and of the oblique triangle; applications.

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<sup>4</sup>Ibid., p. 228.

<sup>5</sup>The University of Chicago Catalogue, (Chicago, 1958-59), p. 68.

Analysis I: An introduction to the concepts of analytic geometry and calculus, embracing elementary treatment of the straight line and the circle, and differentiation and integration of simple algebraic forms.

Analysis II: Advanced algebra and trigonometry includes quadratic equations, progressions, the binomial theorem, logarithms, inequalities, mathematical induction, and complex numbers. Thorough treatment of the trigonometric functions and solutions of triangles with applications.

Analytic Geometry: Treats the straight line and conic sections in detail; rotation of axes, parametric equations, and polar coordinates. Recognizing a curve from its equation is emphasized.

Calculus I: Deals with the derivatives and differential of both algebraic and transcendental functions, application of maximum and minimum, parametric equations, and polar equations, curvature, the law of the mean and its application.<sup>6</sup>

The following aims of the Mathematics Department of Arkansas Polytechnic College are found in its catalog:

The objectives of the department of mathematics are to assist the student in the acquisition of important information and work experience, in the cultivation of useful work habits and study skills, in an appreciation of the aesthetic values of mathematics and of the role it has had in the growth of our culture, and in the development of effective methods of thinking, salable skills, and certain hard-to-express intangibles represented by fairness of judgment and intellectual honesty.<sup>7</sup>

Northeastern Oklahoma A and M College<sup>8</sup> states in its catalog that mathematics study gives a basis for understanding the technical and scientific developments of modern times. It is further stated here that mathematics develops intel-

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<sup>6</sup>Florida A and M University Catalogue, (Tallahassee, 1955), pp. 123-124.

<sup>7</sup>Arkansas Polytechnic College Catalog, (Russellville, 1955-56), p. 77.

<sup>8</sup>Northeastern Oklahoma A and M College Catalogue, (Tahlequah, 1957-1959), p. 66.

ctual initiative, creates an ideal of clarity and precision reasoning, and increases the imaginative power of the student in general.

From the catalog of Bennington College, a New England girls' school, come the following aims of two mathematics courses:

**College Algebra:** Seeks to develop the student's power of analysis. Beginning with the concept of number the fundamental algebraic processes will be developed rapidly, emphasis being placed upon the role of definition. Extension of definition and an introduction to rigorous deductive methods of proof will be served by the close examination of Pascal's triangle and tentative statement of the Binomial Theorem will be derived and will serve as an introduction to proof by inductive methods. Such other topics as permutations, combinations and probability will be considered if time permits.

**Plane Trigonometry:** From the initial definitions relating to the right triangle, extensions of definitions to ratios of angles of any size will be made. The course will develop through a study of the graphs of circular functions, solutions of trigonometric equations solutions of oblique triangles. (Students will be encouraged to relate their findings to problems encountered in everyday life.)<sup>9</sup>

#### Objectives from Mathematical Journals

Articles from mathematical journals such as School Science and Mathematics, The Mathematics Teacher, and The American Mathematical Monthly were used as a source in the compilation of objectives for the questionnaire. In discussing the qualities that our future scientists and mathematicians should have, Norton states the following:

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<sup>9</sup>Bennington College Catalog, (Bennington, 1955-56), . 29.

Most authorities agree that the following traits, qualities, and characteristics are ones of particular value to individuals interested in scientific and mathematical endeavors. . . . They are: 1) Dependability, 2) Goal directed activity, 3) Experimentation, 4) Human relationships, 5) Logical thinking, 6) Creativity, 7) Self-expression, 8) Patience, 9) Modesty, and 10) Alertness.<sup>10</sup>

Henderson and Dickman<sup>11</sup> list some ninety-seven needs of prospective students in the college of engineering. The following needs, among others, are found in their article: concept of an approximate number; concept of algebraic variables and constants; preparation and interpretation of statistical graphs; common special products; laws of exponents including negative and fractional exponents; solution of a pair of linear equations including solution by determinants; solution of a quadratic equation by factoring, by completing the square, and by the formula; addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of radicals and complex numbers; computation by means of logarithms; interpolation; concept of locus; laws of sines, cosines, and tangents; and concept of a vector.

Included among the aims given by Schaaf<sup>12</sup> are the

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<sup>10</sup>Monte S. Norton, "Developing Success Qualities in Our Future Scientists and Mathematicians," School Science and Mathematics, LVII (1957), p. 620.

<sup>11</sup>K. B. Henderson and Kern Dickman, "Mathematical Needs of Prospective Students in the College of Engineering," the Mathematics Teacher, XLV (1952), pp. 89-93.

<sup>12</sup>W. L. Schaaf, "The Teaching of Trigonometry," pp. 446-448.



following:

1. To give a thorough working knowledge of trigonometry.
2. An insight into the usefulness of mathematics is gained from trigonometry far more than from any other course.
3. An introduction to the ideas of mathematically describing a periodic function.
4. An appreciation of the beauty in the marvelous combinations of which trigonometric functions are capable is a worthy aim.
5. To give training in functional thinking through graphical representation of functional relations.
6. To develop the power of quantitative and space perception and spatial imagination.
7. To develop mental habits of analysis, exactness, and logical organization.

MacDuffee<sup>13</sup> said that the first objective in a course in calculus has to be the basic techniques of differentiation and integration and that our proper goal in the calculus is to develop the student's ability to interpret the physical world in mathematical terminology. MacDuffee further stated that the first course in calculus should be rigorous up to the capacity of the student to appreciate rigor.

Hassler is a good example of some of the earlier writers who emphasized some of the more intangible objectives. Hassler, writing in 1929, said:

A knowledge of the history of the development of mathematical processes he is learning will kindle the pupil's interest in the subject matter. . . . A knowledge of the history of mathematics gives . . . an appreciation of the value of the subject and its inseparable and vital connection with the development of civilization.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>13</sup>MacDuffee, p. 335.

<sup>14</sup>J. O. Hassler, "The Use of Mathematical History in Teaching," The Mathematics Teacher, XXII (1929), p. 166.

Although Nowlan admitted that there were other worthwhile objectives, he classified the major aims of mathematics teaching under two main headings. He wrote:

I do not underestimate the value of practical application in the teaching of mathematics, nor the necessity for the mastery of mechanical skills in numerical and algebraic operations. I assume that these are taken care of, as a matter of course, in our instruction.

There are two main aims in the teaching of college mathematics, whether to liberal arts students or to students of engineering. These, in order of importance, are:

1. Training in precise thinking and a grasp of principles.
2. The acquisition of information and a mastery of certain technical skills.<sup>15</sup>

Fehr, when writing on the purposes of the study of mathematics, said that there are at least four fundamental goals that should be attained. They are given below:

First it should serve as a functional tool in solving our . . . problems.

In the second place, mathematics serves as a handmaiden for the explanation of the quantitative situations in other subjects, such as economics, physics, navigation, finance, biology, and even the arts. . . .

In the third place, mathematics, when properly concerned becomes a model for thinking, for developing scientific structure, for drawing conclusions, and for solving problems. . . .

In the fourth place, mathematics is the describer of the universe about us.<sup>16</sup>

In the Fifteenth Year Book<sup>17</sup> of The National Council

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<sup>15</sup>Nowlan, p. 78.

<sup>16</sup>Howard F. Fehr, "Reorientation in Mathematics Education," Teachers College Record, LIV (1953), pp. 430-439.

<sup>17</sup>W. R. Reeve, Editor, Fifteenth Year Book, The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, The Place of Mathematics in Secondary Education, (Bureau of Publications, Columbia University, 1940), p. 253.

For Teachers of Mathematics, the objectives are classified under the following headings:

1. Ability to think clearly.
2. Ability to use information, concepts, and general principles.
3. Ability to use fundamental skills.
4. Desirable attitudes.
5. Interests and appreciations.

Under "ability to think clearly", are found such activities as "gathering and organizing data," "drawing conclusions," and "establishing and judging claims of proof". Some of the attitudes which are considered desirable are:

- (a) Respect for knowledge, (b) Respect for good workmanship,
- (c) Respect for understanding, (d) Social-mindedness,
- (e) Open-mindedness.

In an article concerning the teaching of a first course in calculus, Parker lists the following major objectives:

1. To give the student an understanding of the fundamental concepts of the calculus and a point of view relative to the historical background out of which these concepts grew.
2. To develop proficiency in the manipulative skills of differentiation and integration.
3. To develop the ability in making practical applications of the principle learned. . . .

The concepts of a function, a variable, increment, limit, and continuity are absolutely necessary stepping-stones for the beginning student.<sup>18</sup>

In describing a plan for a program in mathematics for liberal arts students, Allendoerfer wrote:

In thinking of these students . . . First we have utility as a chief reason for their study of mathematics.

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<sup>18</sup>James E. Parker, "The Teaching Objectives in a First Course in Calculus," The Mathematics Teacher, XXXVII (1944), 347.

. . . second, mathematics is traditionally known as a logical subject, and its pursuit is supposed to improve the capacity of the mind for reasoning. And, finally, the student may hope to attain some understanding of the nature of mathematics and of its contribution to our culture.<sup>19</sup>

In describing the mathematics program at the University of Chicago, Northrop outlines the objectives as follows:

. . . the student should be taught to think deductively, to know what a deductive system is, to understand the relation between an abstract deductive system and its models, or concrete interpretations, and to have some appreciation of what rigor is and how it may be achieved. Add to this the fact that he should learn, both for the skills themselves and for the part they will play in his later courses in science, how to understand and to deal with the problem of quantity and space, and the content of a year course in mathematics appropriate to a program of liberal education becomes fairly clear: It should include at least the study of logic, algebra, and geometry.<sup>20</sup>

#### Objectives from Dissertations

Among the published and unpublished dissertations some objectives for the questionnaire were found. The abstracts of dissertations found in the library of Oklahoma State University were searched for usable objectives. The Special Services Department of the library secured unpublished dissertations from other universities for the investigator.

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<sup>19</sup>G. B. Allendoerfer, "Mathematics for Liberal Arts Students," The American Mathematical Monthly, LIV (1947), p. 573.

<sup>20</sup>E. P. Northrop, "The Mathematics Program in the College of the University of Chicago," The American Mathematical Monthly, LV (1948), p. 2.

The dissertation by Banks<sup>21</sup> proved quite fruitful in his respect. In his study, Banks compared the relative effectiveness of general mathematics and college algebra in improving the ability to think critically. The responses that Banks received from 213 colleges and universities indicated that the ability to do critical or logical thinking is considered to be the most important contribution which the study of mathematics has to make to the education of the students who are not to specialize in mathematics.

In a study undertaken to aid in the clarification of the role of mathematics in the program of the community college, Bentz arrived at thirty-one critical mathematical requirements for the community college student. Among these thirty-one requirements, the following objectives were found:

1. Skill in computing with integers, common fractions
2. Familiarity with terms used in the identification of various numbers
3. Ability to interpret and express relationships by means of a chart, formula, or graph
4. Skill in setting up and solving simple equations to find the value of the unknown number
5. Ability to make a proper selection and use of a formula from memory or from a reference source
6. Ability to carry out an interpolation
7. Understanding of the usefulness of a system of coordinates
8. Understanding of the meaning of the more common symbols used in the field of mathematics
9. Ability to collect and tabulate accurately various kinds of numerical data
10. Understanding of the significance of such fundamental statistical measures as the arithmetic mean, median, mode, range, and standard deviation
11. Ability to use the slide rule and calculating machines to perform various fundamental operations

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<sup>21</sup>John H. Banks, Critical Thinking in College Freshman Mathematics, (unpub. Ph. D. dissertation, George Peabody College for Teachers, 1949), p. 15.

12. Understanding of the meaning of a logarithm and the ability to use it as a short cut in making calculations
13. Skill in the use of the sine, cosine, and tangent trigonometric ratios in determining distances and angles
14. Awareness of the importance of doing careful, accurate work and of checking results
15. Awareness of the importance of developing correct habits of a clerical nature in writing figures
16. Ability to deal intelligently with the matter of locus, investments, and the cost of borrowing money
17. Ability to make a selection of the significant facts in a given problem, and to apply the necessary techniques to bring about a satisfactory solution.<sup>22</sup>

#### Objectives from Textbooks

Textbooks for courses in freshman and sophomore mathematics were examined in order to find the objectives of the authors. Forty-three textbooks were examined. Included among these books were those used in the cooperating colleges of this study and some found in the library of this university. These books have a wide range of publication dates--1904 to 1956. The aims of the authors were determined by an analysis of the prefaces and introductions of the textbooks. While one of the textbooks did not state the objectives of the authors, others gave detailed objectives for the course.

Typical of some of the algebra textbooks is College Algebra, whose authors<sup>23</sup> stated that their book emphasizes

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<sup>22</sup>Ralph Porter Bentz, "Critical Mathematical Requirements for the Program of the Community College," Abstracts of Dissertations, (George Peabody College for Teachers, 1952), p. 13.

<sup>23</sup>Committee of College Algebra, College Algebra (New York, 1956), p. ix.

algebraic<sup>7</sup> technique, . . . and is sufficiently rich in interpretation and general problems to develop the student's powers of analysis. . . . Stress is laid upon concepts, the material is presented with logical rigor, they say. The authors further state that in order to add to the cultural maturity of the student, many brief yet complete historical sketches of elementary mathematics are given.

Cooley and others give the cultural objectives of their textbook to be the following:

1. To show how many of the fundamental ideas of mathematics have their sources in physical experience.
2. To show, how, from these ideas, mathematics builds broad logical theories which have wide application in the physical, biological, and social sciences, the arts, and philosophy.
3. To show that mathematics is a vast unified system of reasoning.
4. To acquaint the student with the logical structure of the mathematical system and thus provide him with a standard of exact reasoning which should help him to achieve a more critical attitude toward conclusions arrived at in other fields.
5. To show that science and philosophy are indebted to mathematics for many precise concepts, such as velocity, motion, and infinity.
6. To open the student's mind to the fact that the development of mathematics from ancient to modern times has been an important factor in the development of civilization.<sup>24</sup>

One of the general mathematics textbooks with a modern approach is Fundamentals of Mathematics. The author of the book gives the following as the objectives of the book:

1. An appreciation of the natural origin and evolutionary growth of the basic mathematical ideas from antiquity to the present;

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<sup>24</sup>Hollis R. Cooley et al., Introduction to Mathematics, (Chicago, 1937), p. v.

2. A critical logical attitude, and a wholesome respect for correct reasoning, precise definitions, and a clear grasp of underlying assumptions;
3. An understanding of the role of mathematics as one of the major branches of human endeavor, and its relations with other branches of the accumulated wisdom of the human race;
4. A discussion of some of the simpler important problems of pure mathematics and its applications, including some which often come to the attention of the educational layman and cause him needless confusion;
5. An understanding of the nature and practical importance of postulational thinking.<sup>25</sup>

As the author further discusses the objectives of the textbook, he states:

The author has intended to present a course in mathematics which will emphasize the distinction between familiarity and understanding, between logical proof and routine manipulation, between critical attitude of mind and habitual unquestioning belief, between scientific knowledge, and both encyclopedic collections of facts and mere opinion and conjecture, and which will give the student a wholesome appreciation of the nature and importance of mathematics.<sup>26</sup>

Another author, Dadourian, gave the objectives which he hoped his textbook would assist the student achieve. In the preface of the trigonometry book written by him is found the following:

In writing this book the author has had the following objectives: (1) To stimulate the student's interest and motivation, and to deepen his comprehension of the subject. To these ends, emphasis is laid on concepts, principles, and general methods; trigonometric functions are applied to simple problems of mensuration, mechanics, engineering and surveying; and the application of the functions to other fields is pointed out.

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<sup>25</sup>Moses Richardson, Fundamentals of Mathematics, New York, 1941), pp. v-vi.

<sup>26</sup>Ibid., p. vi.



. . . (2) To reduce the need for memory work to a minimum. . . . To present proofs and solved problems in such a way as to reduce the amount of necessary verbal explanation to a minimum, to make analytical work orderly, concise and lucid; and thus to familiarize the student with a general method of procedure which is conducive to clear thinking, and to greater freedom from blunder, and to economy of time and effort.<sup>27</sup>

Rosenbach, Whitman, and Moskovitz<sup>28</sup> said that in their textbook on trigonometry every effort was made to present the material in a manner that is clear and simple, yet stimulating and rigorous. They have attempted to emphasize those topics which are generally recognized to be essential, whatever the aims of the student or the objective of the course.

Nathan and Helmer<sup>29</sup> wrote that one of the objectives of analytic geometry should be the direct preparation for the study of calculus, engineering, and the physical and social sciences. They say that a study of analytic geometry can develop the student's powers of intuition and rigorous thinking and can provide him with an example of a unified body of thought. The examples and problems in the book embody applications to physics, chemistry, astronomy, engineering, and economics.

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<sup>27</sup>H. M. Dadourian, Plane Trigonometry, (Cambridge, 1941) p. vii-viii.

<sup>28</sup>J. E. Rosenbach, E. A. Whitman, and David Moskovitz, Plane Trigonometry, (New York, 1937), p. iii.

<sup>29</sup>David Nathan and Olaf Helmer, Analytic Geometry, (New York, 1947), p. v.

Buchanan and Wahlin said in their textbook:

Every mathematics instructor is aware of the urgent need to develop the brilliant student and at the same time to impart to the average student some feeling for mathematics as a living subject, one that has not only had a tremendous influence on the development of our civilization, but is vitally important in present-day affairs. In writing this book we have kept these needs in mind. . . .

For the better students we have provided a sufficient number of more or less advanced exercises and also historical reports, . . . to challenge his ability and make him feel his efforts are worthwhile.<sup>30</sup>

Maxime Bocher<sup>31</sup>, of Harvard University, stated that if analytic geometry is properly taught it is a difficult subject and that it should not be degraded to a course in graphics; that is, curve plotting, numerical problems, and the like. He says, "The one aim should be to put the student into possession of an instrument which he himself can use in proving new geometrical theorems or solving new problems."

In stating the objectives of his analytic geometry textbook, Sisam stated the following in the preface:

The course in analytic geometry has several major objectives, each of which has been fully considered in the preparation of this text. It should follow in a natural way from the student's previous work in mathematics, which it is expected to unify; it must acquaint the student with the methods, the spirit, and the essential facts of analytic geometry; and it should stress the particular types of geometric reasoning that the student will encounter most frequently in his later work.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>30</sup>H. E. Buchanan and G. E. Wahlin, Elements of Analytic Geometry, (New York, 1937), p. v.

<sup>31</sup>Maxime Bocher, Plane Analytic Geometry, (New York, 1915), p. v.

<sup>32</sup>Charles H. Sisam, Analytic Geometry, (New York, 1936), iii.

Murnaghan, declaring that the aim of calculus is more than mechanical manipulations and techniques, also stated that his calculus book aims at meaning and understanding. He stated the following:

The method used is radically different from that of the currently popular texts. Many teachers seem to feel and have no hesitation in expressing their feeling, that it is impossible to teach calculus correctly. The best one can do, they claim, is to give some idea of what the subject is about and to impart, by repeated drill and practice, proficiency in the manipulative details of the subject. The results obtained by this procedure are familiar; the ordinary student who has worked hard in the course can tell you the derivatives and the integrals of the most sinister-looking function, but he has no clear and confident understanding of what a derivative and an integral really are.<sup>33</sup>

Neeley and Tracey agree that differential and integral calculus should have two aims. They stated:

The student who studies this subject because of his attraction to mathematics is not well equipped if he lacks a fair appreciation of the wide applications of the calculus in modern science and engineering. On the other hand, the student who is required to use the calculus in some chosen field of science can make more intelligent and extensive applications if he understands the underlying principles of the subject. Hence, whether mathematics is to be regarded as the queen of the sciences or as the tool of the scientists, the study of the calculus for the future teacher of mathematics and for the future engineer should differ only in the degree of emphasis placed on the theory and the applications.<sup>34</sup>

The oldest textbook that the writer examined was written in the first part of this century by Granville.

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<sup>33</sup>Francis P. Murnaghan, Differential and Integral calculus, (Brooklyn, 1947), pp. iii-v.

<sup>34</sup>J. H. Neeley and J. I. Tracey, Differential and Integral Calculus, (New York, 1932), p. v.

the two aims of the author were to sharpen the student's intuition and to increase his analytic ability. In the preface of the calculus textbook by Granville, one finds:

The present volume is the result of an effort to write a modern textbook on the calculus which shall be essentially a drill book. With this end in view, the pedagogic principle that each result should be made intuitionally as well as analytically evident to the student has been kept constantly in mind. . . . The object has not been to teach the student to rely upon his intuition, but in some cases to use this faculty in advance of the analytic investigation.<sup>35</sup>

In a study reported out of Teachers College, Columbia University, in 1943, Brown<sup>36</sup> found that a survey of the objectives of general mathematics as given by the authors of more than fifty general mathematics textbooks indicates that the aims of general mathematics courses fall into three categories. They are given below:

1. To prepare the student for a profession, semi-profession, or vocation in which mathematics is useful as a tool and emphasis is placed on facility in mathematical manipulation as well as on understanding of the concepts involved.
2. To prepare students to be intelligent citizens, mathematically. . . .
3. To attain both the above objectives by meeting the needs of the large academic terminal mathematics group and

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<sup>35</sup>William A. Granville, Elements of the Differential and Integral Calculus, (Boston, 1904), p. iii.

<sup>36</sup>Kenneth E. Brown, General Mathematics in American Colleges, (New York Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, 1943), p. 61.

so to furnish an adequate preparation for the minority who wish to pursue further courses in mathematics.

After obvious duplications had been eliminated, the objectives given above were incorporated into a single list of seventy-three general and specific objectives. This list appears as Appendix A of this study. The selection of the objectives was based upon the writer's opinion arrived at from an examination of the literature.

### Selection of the Jury

These seventy-three objectives were put in questionnaire form and sent to thirty-nine outstanding educators in the field of mathematics. These thirty-nine educators made up the panel from which the jury of experts were selected.

Essential criteria were established for the selection of the experts of the jury who met some or all of the requirements given below. The criteria were:

1. Extensive and recent experience in teaching college mathematics.
2. Scholarly publications in educational and/or mathematical journals.
3. The experts must have shown interest in mathematics education at the college level as evidenced by one or more of the following accomplishments:
  - a) Publications in mathematical journals.
  - b) Membership on special committees, such as the Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics of the Mathematical Association of America, and the Commission on Mathematics of the College Entrance Examination Board.
  - c) Head of the department of mathematics in a leading college or university.
  - d) Author of a modern textbook of mathematics for freshmen or sophomores.
  - e) Mathematics instructor especially concerned with mathematics education.

In order to increase the validity of the objectives of the questionnaire, some experts were chosen from colleges and universities similar to the cooperating institutions of this study.

Table I below gives the names, locations, positions, and some of the qualifications of the members of the jury.

That the jury members were well-qualified is seen by the fact that eighty-six per cent of them were members of either The Mathematical Association of America or The American Mathematical Society. Kenneth E. Brown, Specialist in Mathematics in the United States Office of Education, also is a member of the Research Committee of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. C. B. Lindquist was recently appointed as Chief for Natural Sciences and Mathematics in the United States Office of Education. Duren is Professor of Mathematics and also Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of Virginia University. Seidlin is Professor of Mathematics and Dean of the Graduate School of Alfred University. Fawcett is the Chairman of the Department of Education and Professor of Mathematics Education at Ohio State University. Jones, Gager, Price, and Pingry are holding or have held offices in the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Twenty-two jurymen of the twenty-eight have had one or more articles in the leading mathematical journals of the nation. Twenty-five jury members are teachers of college mathematics, and ten are chairmen or heads of their departments of mathematics. Eight of

TABLE I  
 NAMES, LOCATIONS, AND EDUCATIONAL  
 POSITIONS OF JURY MEMBERS

Name	Location	Position
A. Beaumont	U. of Washington	Executive Officer of Mathematics Department
neth E. Brown	U. S. Office of Education	Specialist for Mathematics
L. Duren, Jr.	U. of Virginia	Mathematics Professor, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
old Fawcett	Ohio State U.	Head, Department of Mathematics Education
ard Fehr	Teachers College Columbia U.	Head, Mathematics Department
liam Gager	Florida U.	Professor, Mathematics
n R. Hatcher	Fisk University	Assistant Professor of Mathematics
H. G. Hildebrandt	Northwestern U.	Associate Professor
liam N. Huff	Oklahoma U.	Head, Mathematics Dept
llip S. Jones	U. of Michigan	Associate Professor
ston T. Karnes	Louisiana State	Head, Mathematics Dept
I. Layton	Stephen F. Austin	Head, Mathematics Dept
B. Lindquist	U. S. Office of Education	Chief, Natural Science and Mathematics
odore Love	Fisk University	Head, Mathematics Dept
G. MacDuffee	U. of Wisconsin	Professor of Mathemat
ice Meserve	New Jersey State Teachers College	Head, Mathematics Department
V. Newsome	New York U.	President
bert Pingry	U. of Illinois	Associate Professor

TABLE I (continued)

Name	Location	Position
Robert Poe	Central State	Assistant Professor
W. Vernon Price	U. of Iowa	Professor of Mathema
W. B. Read	Wichita U.	Head, and Professor
Charles Richardson	Brooklyn College	Professor
Jack L. Rowe	Bakersfield Junior College	Head, Mathematics Department
William L. Schaaf	Brooklyn College	Associate Professor of Mathematics
Joseph Seidlin	Alfred U.	Dean of Graduate School and Professor of Mathematics
W. P. Vance	Oberlin College	Associate Professor of Mathematics
Henry Van Engen	Iowa State Teachers College	Associate Professor of Mathematics
W. Lynwood Wren	George Peabody College	Professor of Mathematics

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he experts of this study are authors or co-authors of mathematics textbooks. Fehr and Van Engen are members of the Commission on Mathematics of the College Entrance Examination Board, while Schaaf, Vance, Hildebrandt, Jones, and Read have been editors of mathematical journals or editors of departments in these journals. Hildebrandt, Brown, and Fehr were considered to be specialists in mathematics education by Woodby.<sup>37</sup>

The consensus, therefore, of such a jury should be readily accepted as representative of the best thinking in the United States with respect to the aims and objectives of mathematics instruction.

#### Data from Questionnaire and Other Sources

After the formulation of the questionnaire and the selection of the jury members as described above, the seventy-three item questionnaire, accompanying letter, and self-addressed return envelope were sent to thirty-nine experts in the field of mathematics education. (Appendix A)

A four-point rating scale was placed at the top of the first page of the mimeographed list of the seventy-three objectives. The experts were asked to assign to each item a value of "4", "3", "2", or "1" in the space provided, according to the following directions:

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<sup>37</sup>Lauren G. Woodby, "A Synthesis and Evaluation of Subject-Matter Topics in Mathematics for General Education" (unpub. Ph. D. dissertation, University of Michigan, 1952), p. 26.

Directions: Please indicate your opinion of the value of each objective for freshman and sophomore mathematics courses by placing the number 4, 3, 2, or 1 before the statement of the objective according to the following scale:

- 4 The objective is highly desirable.
- 3 The objective is of considerable value.
- 2 The objective is of slight value.
- 1 The objective is of no value.

Nine weeks elapsed between the receiving of the first and last completed questionnaires. Thirty-four, or eighty-even per cent, of the thirty-nine questionnaires were returned. Two were returned unopened because the persons had retired. Five persons did not respond at all, although follow-up card was sent to each. Of the thirty-four completed questionnaires, four were rejected as not being usable since the respondents admitted that they evaluated the items from a different frame of reference than that suggested in the directions. This gave twenty-eight completed questionnaires upon which to base the conclusions about the desirable objectives.

In order to compare the opinions of the experts and the opinions of the mathematics instructors in the seven colleges of the study, the seventy-three-item questionnaire was sent to the mathematics instructors. The instructions for rating the items were the same as for the experts. The questionnaire, accompanying letter (Appendix B), and self-addressed, stamped envelope were sent to the heads of the mathematics departments of the seven colleges with the instruction to have each teacher of freshman and sophomore mathematics complete the questionnaire. After many follow-up

letters and long distance telephone calls, nineteen teachers, one-hundred per cent of the teachers of lower division mathematics, completed and returned the questionnaires.

In order to obtain evidence of the achievement of the objectives, the investigator requested copies of the tests and examinations given during the first term of the school year 1957-1958.

A thorough search of the literature was made in an effort to find a standardized test which could be administered to a sample of students in the cooperating colleges. Correspondence was carried on between the Educational Testing Service and the writer. Sample tests were examined. One test which was thought to be suitable was found to be no longer available.

Since no suitable standardized test was available, a test was constructed by the writer. It was designed to measure to some extent the achievement of some of the objectives of the questionnaire by the students of the sample. The test items included many ideas from the questionnaire. A copy of the test appears as Appendix C in this study.

The thirty-five students of the sample were selected by their respective teachers as representative of those students who had completed freshman and sophomore mathematics courses at their school. These selected students were administered the test by their respective teachers.

The teachers of the cooperating colleges were asked to send to the writer syllabi, outlines, bibliographies, and lists of other teaching materials used in their freshman

d sophomore mathematics courses. The investigator used this material in an effort to determine what attempts were made by these mathematics instructors to arrive at the desired goals.

#### Summary of Chapter II

The writer has given in this chapter the source of the objectives used in the questionnaire. These objectives were assembled and formulated from lists of objectives found in college catalogs, mathematical journals, published and unpublished doctoral dissertations, and mathematics textbooks. This chapter has described the method of selection and the qualifications of the members of a jury of experts who were asked to give their opinions concerning the relative merits of seventy-three objectives. Also a description was given in this chapter of other data used in this study, including syllabi, outlines, bibliographies, and a test prepared by the writer and administered to a sample of students of the cooperating colleges.

Chapter III is concerned with the collection and the analysis of the data.

## CHAPTER III

### ANALYSIS OF DATA AND FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this chapter is to present and analyze the data. The data presented and analyzed include those from the questionnaire responses of the jury of experts and the mathematics teachers of the cooperating colleges. In addition to this, the chapter discloses the results from the test given to the sample of students in the colleges.

#### Data from the Questionnaire

In the covering letter sent with each questionnaire to the experts of the jury and the teachers of mathematics, it was suggested that the objectives should be those for the freshman and sophomore mathematics courses in liberal arts colleges. The writer recognized the fact that because of individual differences each student would need a unique set of objectives, no matter what curriculum he followed. It is evident that this is impractical. As a compromise, the writer proposed to assemble a sufficiently broad list of objectives such that the seven cooperating colleges as well as similar institutions would receive benefit therefrom. That all respondents did not respond from the frame of reference intended by the writer is shown by the comments of some of them.

### Comments of Respondents

Provision was made for the respondent to the questionnaire to make comments on the objectives if he desired to do so. Several respondents availed themselves of the opportunity. Although the letter of transmittal suggested that the proposed objectives were for liberal arts freshmen and sophomores, respondent Albert E. Meder, Jr. commented that it was difficult to complete the check list because it was not clear to him just what type of student these courses and objectives were to serve. He asked the following questions:

Is this to constitute a list of objectives for all freshmen and sophomores? Or for all electing mathematics as a requirement for a liberal arts degree? Or as a prerequisite for future mathematical or scientific work? Or as an elective part of general education? Also, what entrance requirements are assumed?

Furthermore Meder suggested seriously that "having some good lean intellectual fun" be added as an objective.

The comments of Duren are worthy of mention since they are similar in many respects to some of the other comments. Duren, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Professor of Mathematics of the University of Virginia, made the following comments:

I gave a low value to many subjects which I regard as high school subjects. If they are not learned in high school, it is my opinion that the students ought not to be in college mathematics which should be reserved for those who can take a form of mathematics in which

analytic geometry, calculus, and problem solving are given top priority. This does not imply that I think that trigonometry is not important. It just isn't right to assign it a high priority in college mathematics.

I also gave a low priority to some objectives which would be fine if you could achieve them, but should not be given high priority if you cannot. In teaching it is not noble to attempt the impossible. Hence I take a dim view of function theoretic rigor though it is good in itself. Also I take a dim view of developing the creative imagination because teachers who claim that a college mathematics course can do this are frauds.

You left out one big mathematical skill: The recognition of form. The old simplification problems, factoring problems, as well as the technique of integration, helped to develop it.

Jack L. Rowe, who completed a similar study as this at year, commented as follows:

I believe the opinions of respondents would be much more reliable if you were to tell just what kind or kinds of mathematics courses you had in mind for freshmen and sophomores. Do you mean objectives for freshman and sophomore calculus courses, business mathematics, trigonometry, advanced algebra, etc.--all of them, part of them, or any of them?

Are you implying that every freshman or sophomore should be exposed to some kind of mathematics course, and if so, what kind? Obviously, a person's opinion of desirable objectives would be different according to the particular point of view held.

Not all comments, however, were adverse. One of the experts who teaches in an Oklahoma college wrote:

Your questionnaire is fine. . . . I think your questions are of real value. However, you know my answers are prejudiced by my stronger feeling towards the theory or pure phase of mathematics.

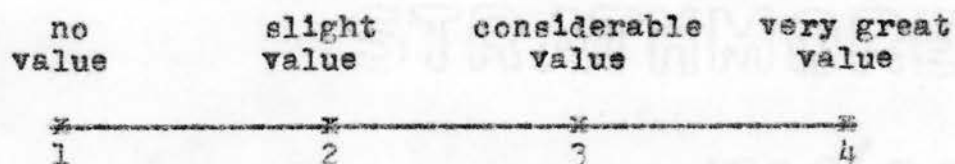
Bruce Meserve of Montclair State Teachers College and B. Read of Wichita University both showed interest in the study by requesting copies of the results of the study.

One of the teachers of the cooperating colleges stated

that the study, so far, had given him some helpful suggestion

### Treatment of Data

In scoring the opinions of the respondents, the writer assigned weights of 4, 3, 2, and 1 to the responses according to the directions of the questionnaire. The mean score of each objective was obtained as follows: The sum of the weights of each objective was divided by the total number of responses to the item. Example: Objective No. 1, "Skill in solving verbal problems and checking solutions", was rated "3" by respondent No. 1, "4" by respondent No. 2, "4" by respondent No. 3, and so on to respondent No. 28, who rated it "4". Thus, the sum of  $3 + 4 + 4 + \dots + 4$  or 100 was divided by 28, giving a mean score of 3.57 for objective No. 1. This mean, when compared with the means of the other objectives, is interpreted as an index of the relative extent to which an objective was recommended by the experts. Each weighted mean may be interpreted by means of the following scale:



It is clear that if the mean of an objective differs slightly from 4, the jury considered the objective to be of great value; whereas, if the mean differs slightly from 1, the jury considered the objective to be of little or no value.



The mean scores of all the seventy-three objectives are ranked in order of magnitude, the greatest being ranked first. The rankings of the seventy-three objectives by the jury of experts are given in Table II, page 45.

When the seventy-three objectives are grouped into quartiles, the objectives whose ranks range from one to 18½ fall in the first quartile. It seems reasonable to assume that these objectives are the ones considered to be more important than the others. These highest ranking objectives are given in Table III on pages 47 and 48. The objectives are listed in order of importance, the most important objective being given first.

TABLE II  
RANKINGS OF THE SEVENTY-THREE  
OBJECTIVES BY EXPERTS

Objective Number	Rank	Frequency of Response in Categories of Value				Weighted Rating	Mean Weighted Rating
		1	2	3	4		
1	14.5	0	2	8	18	100	3.57
2	14.5	3	0	3	22	100	3.57
3	60	1	10	11	5	74	2.74
4	68	4	13	11	0	63	2.25
5	35	0	6	7	15	93	3.32
6	6	1	0	7	20	102	3.64
7	18.5	2	1	5	20	99	3.54
8	46	1	6	10	11	87	3.11
9	22	1	2	7	18	98	3.50
10	72	11	9	5	2	52	1.93
11	6	0	3	4	21	102	3.64
12	4	1	0	6	21	103	3.68
13	65.5	3	14	9	2	66	2.36
14	18.5	0	3	7	18	99	3.54
15	64	4	6	15	3	73	2.61
16	49.5	2	4	12	10	86	3.07
17	58	1	10	10	7	79	2.82
18	9.5	0	2	7	19	101	3.61
19	59	1	8	15	4	78	2.79
20	28	0	1	14	13	96	3.43
21	40	0	6	10	12	90	3.21
22	69.5	7	12	6	3	61	2.18
23	46	0	8	9	11	87	3.11
24	14.5	1	1	7	19	100	3.57
25	52	0	7	15	6	83	2.96
26	62	5	7	6	9	73	2.70
27	42	2	2	13	11	89	3.18
28	42	1	4	12	11	89	3.18
29	52	2	5	13	8	83	2.96
30	65.5	4	12	10	2	66	2.36
31	49.5	4	2	10	12	86	3.07
32	73	18	8	2	0	40	1.43
33	52	1	7	12	8	83	2.96
34	46	0	4	17	7	87	3.11
35	18.5	0	2	9	17	99	3.54
36	55.5	1	10	8	9	81	2.89

TABLE II (continued)

Subjective Number	Rank	Frequency of Response in Categories of Value				Weighted Rating	Mean Weighted Rating
		1	2	3	4		
37	31	0	3	11	14	95	3.39
38	14.5	0	2	8	18	100	3.57
39	31	0	5	7	16	95	3.39
40	9.5	0	0	11	17	101	3.61
41	42	0	4	15	9	89	3.18
42	71	7	12	8	1	59	2.11
43	29	0	3	10	14	92	3.41
44	6	1	2	3	22	102	3.64
45	24.5	1	1	9	16	94	3.48
46	33	1	1	12	13	91	3.37
47	27	1	1	10	15	93	3.44
48	37.5	1	3	11	12	88	3.26
49	9.5	1	0	8	19	101	3.61
50	2	0	1	4	22	102	3.78
51	1	0	0	4	23	104	3.85
52	3	1	0	4	22	101	3.74
53	22	0	0	13	13	91	3.50
54	37.5	1	4	9	13	88	3.26
55	18.5	0	2	9	17	99	3.54
56	12	0	1	9	17	97	3.59
57	24.5	1	1	9	16	94	3.48
58	31	1	1	12	14	95	3.39
59	46	1	3	16	8	87	3.11
60	34	0	1	16	10	90	3.33
61	26	1	2	8	17	97	3.46
62	22	1	2	7	18	98	3.50
63	61	3	7	13	5	76	2.71
64	67	5	14	5	4	64	2.29
65	69.5	3	17	8	0	61	2.18
66	39	1	5	7	13	84	3.23
67	9.5	0	1	9	18	101	3.61
68	51	1	8	9	10	84	3.00
69	63	1	12	11	4	74	2.64
70	36	1	2	13	12	92	3.29
71	55.5	4	5	9	10	81	2.89
72	46	0	6	13	9	87	3.11
73	57	0	9	14	5	80	2.86

TABLE III

OBJECTIVES CONSIDERED TO BE HIGHLY  
DESIRABLE BY THE EXPERTS

Objective Number	Objective
51	Habit of evaluating the conclusion in light of the basic assumptions and given data.
50	Habit of dissatisfaction with incompleteness, ambiguity, and incoherent arguments.
52	Habit of solving problems independently, and the development of confidence in one's own ability.
12	Skill in making mathematical generalizations and discoveries.
6	Ability to translate word statements into equations.
11	Skill in formulating problems.
44	Attitude of suspending judgment until sufficient evidence is available.
18	Ability to prove simple theorems.
40	Ability to apply mathematics to other fields.
49	Habits of orderliness, accuracy, neatness, exactness of expression, concentration and organization.
67	Understanding limit, continuity, function, derivative.
56	Expansion of student's interest in mathematics
1	Skill in solving verbal problems and checking solutions.
2	Skill in arithmetical and algebraic fundamentals.

TABLE III (continued)

Objective Number	Objective
24	Ability to define certain mathematical terms.
38	Ability to use mathematical symbols, such as $>$ and $\rightarrow$ .
7	Ability to solve simple linear equations.
35	Ability to find the equation of a line given two points on the line.
14	Skill in the use of positive, negative and fractional exponents.
55	Attitudes of curiosity, creativeness and research.

In so far as the aims in the first quartile are concerned the opinions of the experts seem fairly consistent. Twenty-three of the twenty-seven experts who scored objective no. 51 gave it a score of "4", and the other four experts gave it a score of "3". Twenty-two of twenty-seven experts gave item no. 50 a score of "4", whereas four gave it a score of "3", and only one scored it "2". Item no. 52 was rated "4" by twenty-two experts, "3" by four experts, and "1" by one expert. General agreement is further shown by the ratings given objectives no. 2 and no. 44, where 81.5 per cent of the experts rated each "4". Also, 75.0 per cent of the experts considered objectives no. 11 and no. 12 to be of "great value", while 71.4 per cent of the experts considered objectives no. 6 and no. 7 to be of "great value". Of the sixteen highest ranking objectives, each was given a rating of "great value" by more than 60 per cent of the experts. Nine of these sixteen top ranking objectives were not rated of "no value" by any of the experts.

Objective no. 7 was rated "4" by twenty experts, yet it failed to be included in the first quartile because it had a rank of only 18.5. Three other objectives which had the same rank of 18.5 might be included in the first quartile. These objectives were no. 35, no. 14, and no. 55, which were, respectively, "Ability to find the equation of a line, given two points on the line," "Skill in the use of positive, negative, and fractional exponents," and "Attitudes of curiosity, creativeness, and research."

In his comments on the questionnaire, Professor C. B. Ad of Wichita University said,

It is almost impossible to rate a concept as of no value, even though it is relatively far less important than another. . . . It is quite a different question: Are these stressed in your own courses?

This hesitation by the experts to give a low rating to an objective is seen throughout the ratings of the seventy-three objectives. Nevertheless, some of the experts did consider certain objectives to be of "no value". This made possible the differentiation between important objectives and unimportant objectives.

The nineteen lowest ranked objectives, grouped in the fourth quartile, are considered by the experts to be relatively unimportant. They are listed in Table IV, page 51, in order of value as determined by the ratings of the experts, the objective of least value being placed last.

TABLE IV  
OBJECTIVES CONSIDERED BY THE EXPERTS  
TO BE OF SLIGHT OR NO VALUE

Objective number	Objective
36	Ability to find the equation of a circle, given three points of the circle.
71	Knowledge of the relations between the roots and the coefficients of equations.
73	Knowledge of permutation and combination formul
17	Ability to rationalize the denominators of fractions, such as $1/(1-2i)$ .
19	Ability to transform equations by translating and rotating axes.
3	Ability to use logarithms.
63	Knowledge of the history of our number system.
26	Ability to do certain simple geometric constructions.
69	Understanding of the rigorous proofs of the basic theorems of calculus.
15	Ability to solve systems of equations by determinants.
13	Ability to use synthetic division.
30	Ability to solve oblique triangles.
64	Concept of geometric terms such as medians and incenter.
4	Ability to use slide rule or calculating machi
22	Ability to use the law of tangents.
65	Concept of simple spherical trigonometry.
42	Ability to use the multinomial theorem.
10	Ability to solve cubic equations.
32	Ability to use a surveyor's transit.



The three objectives in the fourth quartile which no expert considered to be of "great value" were "Ability to use slide rule or calculating machine," "Ability to use a surveyor's transit," and "Concept of simple spherical trigonometry." Only two of the lower quartile objectives received more ratings of "no value" than they did of any other ratings. These two objectives were no. 10 and no. 32, which were, respectively, "Ability to solve cubic equations," and "Ability to use a surveyor's transit." Only one expert considered "Ability to use the multinomial theorem" to be of "great value", whereas seven considered it to be of "no value" and twelve experts considered this objective to be of only "slight value." The final rankings of these lower quartile objectives were largely determined by the number of experts who rated them of "slight value" and of "considerable value."

Those objectives which were considered to be of "slight value" by ten or more of the twenty-eight members of the jury are the following, with the number of experts who rated the objective "2" being given in parentheses: "Ability to use slide rule or calculating machine"(13), "Ability to use synthetic division"(14), "Ability to rationalize the denominators of fractions, such as  $1/(1-2i)$ " (10), "Ability to use the law of tangents"(12), "Ability to solve oblique triangles"(12), "Ability to find the equation of a circle, given three points of the circle"(10), "Ability to use the multinomial theorem" (12), "Concept of geometric

terms such as median and incenter"(14), "Concept of simple spherical trigonometry"(17), and "Understanding of the rigorous proofs of the basic theorems of calculus"(12).

As stated in Chapter II, the same questionnaire which was sent to the jury of experts was also sent to the mathematics teachers in the cooperating colleges. The results and analysis of this questionnaire follow.

#### The Ratings of the Objectives by the Teachers

The questionnaires which were returned by the mathematics instructors were analyzed in a manner similar to those from the experts. The rankings of the seventy-three objectives by the instructors and the mean weighted ratings are given in Table V, which follows on pages 54 and 55.

TABLE V  
 RANKINGS OF THE SEVENTY-THREE OBJECTIVES  
 BY MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTORS IN THE  
 SEVEN TEXAS COLLEGES

Objective Number	Rank	Frequency of Responses in Categories of Value				Weighted Rating	Mean Weighted Rating
		1	2	3	4		
1	4.5	1	0	1	17	72	3.79
2	4.5	1	0	1	17	72	3.79
3	47.5	0	1	13	5	61	3.21
4	72	1	12	5	1	44	2.32
5	34.5	0	2	8	9	64	3.37
6	10.5	1	0	2	16	71	3.74
7	4.5	1	0	1	17	72	3.79
8	40	0	3	7	9	63	3.32
9	34.5	1	1	7	10	64	3.37
10	68	3	4	9	3	50	2.63
11	64	1	6	8	4	53	2.79
12	53.5	2	1	9	7	59	3.15
13	65	2	5	8	4	52	2.74
14	10.5	0	0	5	14	71	3.74
15	67	2	5	9	3	51	2.68
16	40	0	2	9	8	63	3.32
17	40	0	2	9	8	63	3.32
18	30	0	3	5	11	65	3.42
19	62	2	3	10	4	54	2.84
20	30	0	2	7	11	65	3.42
21	40	0	2	9	8	63	3.32
22	62	0	5	11	3	54	2.84
23	15	0	0	6	13	70	3.68
24	17.5	1	1	2	15	69	3.63
25	40	1	2	6	10	63	3.32
26	26	1	2	7	9	62	3.26
27	32.5	0	0	11	7	61	3.39
28	4.5	0	1	2	16	72	3.79
29	53.5	1	2	10	16	59	3.15
30	45	0	3	8	8	62	3.26
31	53.5	0	4	9	6	59	3.15
32	73	6	8	4	0	34	1.90
33	53.5	1	3	8	7	59	3.15
34	59	1	5	7	6	56	2.95

TABLE V (continued)

Objective Number	Rank	Frequency of Response in Categories of Value				Weighted Rating	Mean Weighted Rating
		1	2	3	4		
35	15	0	1	4	14	70	3.68
36	40	0	2	9	8	63	3.32
37	30	1	2	4	12	65	3.42
38	47.5	1	3	6	9	61	3.21
39	59	2	4	6	7	56	2.95
40	23	2	0	3	14	67	3.53
41	26	0	1	8	10	66	3.47
42	70	2	9	5	3	47	2.47
43	45	1	2	7	9	62	3.26
44	15	1	1	1	16	70	3.68
45	20	0	0	8	11	68	3.58
46	20	0	0	8	11	68	3.58
47	20	0	0	8	11	68	3.58
48	10.5	0	1	3	15	71	3.74
49	4.5	1	0	1	17	72	3.79
50	10.5	1	0	2	16	71	3.74
51	1	1	0	0	17	69	3.83
52	4.5	1	0	1	17	72	3.79
53	10.5	1	0	2	16	71	3.74
54	17.5	1	0	4	14	69	3.63
55	23	1	1	4	13	67	3.53
56	23	0	1	7	11	67	3.53
57	26	0	2	6	11	66	3.47
58	28	0	3	4	11	62	3.44
59	50	0	3	10	6	60	3.16
60	26	0	1	8	10	66	3.47
61	50	0	4	8	7	60	3.16
62	57	1	3	9	6	58	3.05
63	59	1	3	11	4	56	2.95
64	62	1	7	5	6	54	2.84
65	69	4	4	9	2	47	2.49
66	32.5	1	1	6	10	61	3.39
67	40	0	5	3	11	63	3.32
68	71	4	5	6	3	44	2.44
69	66	5	3	4	7	51	2.69
70	56	1	4	5	8	56	3.11
71	36	0	1	10	7	60	3.33
72	10.5	0	0	5	14	71	3.74
73	50	1	3	7	8	60	3.16

It is seen from an examination of Table V, pages 54 and , that the following objectives will fall into the first article, thus indicating that the teachers consider these objectives to be very important. These objectives, in order rank, are: 51, 1, 2, 7, 28, 49, 52, 6, 14, 48, 50, 72, , 35, 44, 24, and 54.

The objectives considered by the teachers to have little no value in the freshman and sophomore mathematics courses e grouped in the fourth quartile. They are as follows, th the objective of lower rank preceding that of higher nk: 32, 4, 68, 42, 65, 10, 15, 69, 13, 11, 19, 22, 64, , 39, 63, 62, and 70.

Relationship between the Opinion of the Jury of  
Experts and the Opinion of the  
Mathematics Teachers of the  
Cooperating Colleges

To determine the relationship between the opinions of e experts on the one hand and the opinions of the teachers the cooperating colleges on the other hand concerning the relative merits of the seventy-three objectives, the product-ment method of correlation was used. The product-moment thod of determining the coefficient of correlation as scribed by Garrett<sup>1</sup> is given in Appendix D of this study. th the use of Garrett's formula and the data found in ble VI (Appendix D), the coefficient of correlation of the

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<sup>1</sup>Henry E. Garrett, Statistics in Psychology and Educa-  
on, (4th ed., New York, 1953), p. 139.

opinions of the experts and the teachers is also calculated in Appendix D.

It was found in this calculation that the coefficient of correlation,  $r$ , was equal to .78, and that the confidence-interval at the ninety-five per cent level was .67 to .86. That is, the fiduciary probability is .95 that the interval .67 to .86 contains the true  $r$ .

The magnitude of this coefficient of correlation indicated that a substantial positive relationship existed between the opinions of the experts and the opinions of the mathematics teachers of the Texas colleges. Garrett wrote the following concerning the size of  $r$  and the degree of relationship:

It is customary in mental measurement to describe the correlation between two tests in a general way as high, marked or substantial, low or negligible. While the descriptive label applied will vary somewhat in meaning with the author using it, there is a fairly good agreement among workers with psychological and educational tests than an . . .  $r$  from  $\pm .70$  to  $\pm 1.00$  denotes high to very high relationship;  $r$  from  $\pm .40$  to  $\pm .70$  denotes substantial to marked relationship.<sup>2</sup>

The high positive relationship as shown by the coefficient of correlation was an indication that the mathematics teachers of the cooperating colleges knew what objectives were important as judged by the jury of experts.

In spite of the over-all high coefficient of correlation few of the rankings and ratings indicated distinct and wide differences between the two groups of experts and

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<sup>2</sup>Ibid., p. 173.

achers. Some indications of these differences follow:

Objective No. 28, dealing with the ability to solve right triangles was ranked 4.5 by the teachers, while the experts of the jury ranked it only 4.2. An explanation of this may be found in the comments of some of the experts who consider trigonometry to be a high school subject. The teachers ranked Objective No. 48, "Appreciation of mathematics and its role in the development of civilization," 10.5, while the experts ranked it 37.5. The teachers gave Objective No. 72 a rank of 10.5; the experts ranked it 46.

On the other hand, the teachers gave a low rank of 1.5 to Objective No. 12, compared to a rank of 4 by the experts. This objective was concerned with making mathematical generalizations and discoveries. Objective No. 11, "Skill in formulating problems," received a rank of 6 by the experts, but only 6.4 by the teachers. Likewise, Objective No. 67 was ranked 9.5 by the experts and 4.0 by the teachers. This might be explained by the fact that calculus is not taught as freshman and sophomore mathematics courses in all even colleges.

Both groups rated the following objectives in the first quartile: 51, 1, 2, 7, 49, 52, 6, 14, 50, 35, 44, and 24.

Both groups judged the following objectives to be of little or no value by placing them in the fourth quartile: 2, 4, 42, 65, 10, 15, 69, 13, 19, and 64.

It is beyond the scope of this investigation to analyze the factors responsible for the differences between the teachers' ratings and those of the experts.

### Teaching Materials

Although the heads of the mathematics departments of the operating colleges were asked to send descriptions of student projects being carried on in their schools, no report or mention of such projects was received. It might be inferred that no such project exists. The existence of in-school or out-of-school projects might be an indication of attempts at achieving certain objectives, such as No. 12, "Skill in making mathematical generalizations and discoveries," No. 40, "Ability to apply mathematics in other fields," No. 45, "Stimulation of the imagination," No. 55, "Attitude of curiosity, creativeness, and research," and other objectives dealing with skills, knowledge, appreciation, and habits. It is possible that projects are not needed to achieve these objectives. Further study is needed along this line.

Syllabi and outlines of courses were requested. Five colleges sent outlines, while two colleges stated that the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools required that outlines of courses remain in the office of the dean. The analysis of the outlines which were received was done from the standpoint of searching for evidences of the objectives in the outlines. Most of the objectives of the



questionnaire were also found in the outlines. Examples of objectives in the outlines follow:

1. Some essentials of logic--hypothesis, conclusion, necessary and sufficient conditions.
2. Solving linear and quadratic equations.
3. Systems of equations.
4. Negative, zero, and fractional exponents.
5. Interpolation, and computation with logarithms.

The aim of one course in Differential Calculus as given in the outline is "To introduce the student to the vast field of analysis. More specifically, the student is introduced to the fundamental concepts of continuity, limits, derivative. So great effort is exercised in showing how these concepts may be utilized in solving problems in Algebra, Physics, and Engineering." The objective of a course in Plane Analytical Geometry in this college is "To assist students in making good preparation for the calculus." One of the aims of trigonometry is "To prepare the student for more advanced courses in mathematics." An outline from one of the other colleges states that Analytic Geometry contributes to the ability of the student to reason.

The bibliographies contained in the outlines consisted of the ordinary textbooks. No biographies of mathematicians, mathematical magazines, or books on mathematics which might increase the student's interest were reported.

It is generally agreed that teachers' examinations usually reflect their ideas of what is of value in the courses. Tests and examinations given in the first term of this year were sent to the writer from five of the seven

chools. In analyzing the tests, the writer used the introspective method. By closely studying a test, an attempt was made to determine what objectives the teacher was trying to evaluate. Upon examination of each question of the tests, the writer asked himself what concepts, knowledge, and mathematical abilities were necessary to answer the questions correctly. The writer was interested also in determining from the tests what attitudes, habits, skills, and appreciations the teacher was attempting to evaluate. In this analysis of the tests, the writer found the following: Although the objective "Checking" received a high ranking by the teachers who answered the questionnaire, only a few test questions included it. All verbal problems of the tests were "type" problems not likely to create interest or enthusiasm for mathematics. One such typical verbal problem was: A sixteen foot ladder makes an angle of  $60^\circ$  with the wall of a house. What angle does the ladder make with the level ground?

Upon considering all examinations from the five schools, the writer found that arithmetical and algebraic fundamentals are stressed more than other objectives. One teacher rated these objectives of no value on the questionnaire, stating that these were more properly high school aims. Nevertheless, tests from this school revealed that fundamentals were the things considered important in the courses. Neither the ability to use logarithms nor an understanding of the meaning of them received a high ranking from the

experts or the teachers. Nevertheless, the examinations required this skill and this concept in many problems. On the other hand, objectives numbered 44, 49, 50, 48, 51, 52, and 53, dealing with intangibles such as appreciations, habits, and attitudes, were not in evidence on the tests, although they were ranked highly by the teachers of the seven colleges. This does not mean that the objectives were neglected in class instruction; because they are not readily adaptable to the usual methods of testing, they are missing from test questions.

In most cases, the low ranking objectives were not found on the tests. These objectives included "Ability to use the slide rule," "Ability to solve cubic equations," "Skill in formulating problems," "Skill in making generalizations and discoveries," "Ability to use synthetic division," "Ability to use complex numbers," "Ability to transform equations by rotation or translation," "Ability to use the law of tangents," and "Ability to use the surveyor's transit." In addition to these were the following objectives which were not discernible from a study of the tests: "Ability to add or subtract vectors," "Ability to use the multinomial theorem," "Knowledge of the history of our number system," "Concept of spherical trigonometry," "Understanding of the sine of a number," "Concept of group, field, and set," "Understanding of rigorous proofs in calculus," "Knowledge of the relations between the roots and the coefficients of equations," and "Knowledge of

permutation and combination formulas."

Only one college of the seven offered College Geometry during the first term of the 1957-58 school year. The examination for this course consisted of elementary constructions and definitions usually found on high school tests. Examples of items on the test are: At a point on a line construct a perpendicular to the line. Define circle, square, congruent triangles, and perpendicular bisector of a line segment.

The grades achieved by the students were sent with the tests to the investigator. Of the 1888 grades recorded, 1145 were 60 or less, based on maximum grade of 100. Ninety of these grades were zero and seventy-nine were 100. The arithmetic mean of the 1888 grades was 61.3. According to two catalogs from these Texas colleges, a grade of 61.3 is a failing grade.

Data from Test Administered  
to a Sample of Students

The test devised by the writer was administered to thirty-five students of the seven colleges. Based upon a score of 100 per cent for all answers correct, the thirty-five students achieved an average grade of 43.9 per cent. Item No. 1 on the test dealt with exponents. This objective No. 14, was ranked in the first quartile by the teachers. Twelve students, or 34.3 per cent, failed to answer this question correctly. Item 2 on the test was a simple verbal

problem requiring the use of the elementary formula: Distance equals Rate times Time, or elementary reasoning. No student worked this problem. Item 3, like Objective No. 35, required the ability to find the equation of a line, given two points on the line. Twenty-nine, or 82.9 per cent, of the students answered this correctly. Item 4 was designed to determine the acquisition of the ability to do logical, critical or constructive thinking. Only four students gave the correct answer to this item. This objective No. 57, and No. 61, though not ranked in the first quartile by the experts or the teachers, was deemed to be of considerable value by both groups. Item 5 of the College Mathematics test was a verbal problem dealing with the ability to solve the right triangle and to know the definition of the sine of  $X$ . Fifteen students failed to answer Item 5 correctly. Item 6, a verbal problem dealing with the ability to use the law of sines and the ability to solve oblique triangles, was not attempted by eight of the students. Fourteen students answered it correctly. Rated of considerable value by both the experts and the teachers, Objective No. 60, "Understanding the meaning of logarithms" was tested in item 7. Only six students answered this item correctly. In order to be able to answer Item 8 correctly, one needs to know the definitions of the trigonometric functions. Eight of the thirty-five students answered correctly. To answer Item 9, the student needs to have achieved Objective No. 13, "Ability to use synthetic division." Twenty-one

students answered this correctly. Eighteen students did not know that the cosecant of an angle is equal to the secant of the complement of the angle. If the student is to achieve Objective No. 15, "Ability to solve systems of equations by use of determinants," it is necessary that he be able to solve a problem similar to Item 11. Thirteen students succeeded in doing this.

If the roots of a quadratic equation are equal, the discriminant equals zero. Twenty-five of the thirty-five students answered this correctly in Item 12. Since Objective No. 33 is not recommended highly by experts or teachers, it is surprising that the students made such a high score on Item 13, which dealt with complex numbers. Only five students failed to answer this question correctly. Only nine students were able to recognize a rational integral equation. Item 15 of the test is concerned with Descartes' Rule of Signs. Only four students, or eleven per cent, were able to give the correct answer to this item. Item 16 was included in the test in order to evaluate the achievement of Objective No. 71, "Knowledge of the relations between the roots and the coefficients of equations." Only three of the thirty-five students answered this question correctly. Item 17 of the test is used to determine the achievement of Objective No. 20, "Ability to find the maximum and minimum of simple functions." Eleven students were able to answer this item correctly. Item 18 is an Analytic Geometry question. In order to successfully answer this question,

the student needs to know the equations of the straight line. Twenty-four students successfully answered this question. Objective No. 31 was rated of considerable value by the jury of experts and the teachers of the cooperating colleges. Item 19, related to Objective No. 31, requires a familiarity with inverse trigonometry functions. Seventeen of the thirty-five examinees answered Item 19 correctly. The binomial theorem, considered to be important by both the jury of experts and the teachers, was considered in Item 20. Twenty-four of the thirty-five students were able to answer the question of this item correctly. The ability to interpolate in tables is evaluated by Item 21. Nineteen, or 54.3 per cent, of the thirty-five students answered Item 21 correctly. In typing the multiple choices to Item 22, the correct answer was omitted. Because of this, Item 22 was omitted from the analysis of the test. Twenty-five students were able to solve the analytic geometry problem in Item 23, which dealt with parallel lines and their equations.

The students were asked to indicate on the test paper names of the mathematics courses that they had completed. It was found that all thirty-five students had completed College Algebra, Trigonometry, and Plane Analytic Geometry. Thirty students had completed Differential Calculus, and four of them were taking Calculus at the time of the test. Several students indicated that they had completed more

Advanced mathematics courses, such as Integral Calculus, Theory of Equations, Solid Analytic Geometry, and Differential Equations. In analyzing the results of the College Mathematics Test, the investigator recognized that there were several weaknesses in the procedure. Other than for a minimum of two years of college mathematics, the students did not have a common mathematics background. Factors such as Intelligence of the students, number of years of high school mathematics, grades on entrance and placement tests, and the Intentions of the students to make mathematics their major or minor were not considered in the analysis of the results of the test.

In drawing conclusions from the data of this College Mathematics Test, the investigator recognized the weaknesses mentioned above and acted accordingly.

### Summary of Chapter III

In this chapter, the data from the questionnaires returned by the jury of experts and the teachers of the cooperating colleges have been presented and analyzed. Moreover, data obtained from tests and examinations given during the first term of this school year, data obtained from a sample of students, and data from outlines and syllabi of the mathematics courses were presented and analyzed in this chapter.

It was found that there was substantial agreement between the jury and the teachers concerning the relative



values of certain objectives. On the other hand, there was some disagreement concerning certain objectives. The coefficient of correlation between the opinions of the jury and the teachers was .78. This coefficient of correlation was significant at the five per cent level. The high coefficient of correlation indicated agreement between the jury and the teachers.

It was found that the examination and test questions submitted by the teachers did include most, but not all, of the highly recommended objectives. Only three questions, however, pertaining to objectives which were ranked in the fourth quartile by the teachers were found in the test questions. These pertained to concepts of geometric terms, mathematical induction, and inverse trigonometric functions. Of the 1888 scores earned by the students on the tests and examinations, 1145 were not greater than sixty. This was an indication that the objectives which the teachers were attempting to evaluate were not being fully realized.

Low scores were made by the students who took the test constructed by the writer. This was an indication that some of the objectives which were generally considered to be important were not being adequately realized.

The outlines of the mathematics courses, the college catalogs of the seven schools, and the textbooks used in the courses were analyzed by the writer. These were found to contain many of the same or similar objectives which were on the questionnaire sent to the experts and the

eachers.

Chapter IV, which follows, will summarize the study, draw conclusions, and make recommendations based on the findings of the study.

## CHAPTER IV

### GENERAL SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The aim of this chapter is to re-state the problem and the purposes of the study, to review the procedure of the investigation, to summarize the findings, to draw conclusions, and to make recommendations.

#### The Problem and the Purpose of the Study

The problem of this investigation was to determine what objectives are desirable for freshman and sophomore courses in seven Texas colleges, and to ascertain to what extent these objectives are being achieved. The position was taken in this study that the first step in the development of an effective mathematics program is that of determining the objectives of mathematical training that are most valuable. The purpose of this study has been to formulate a list of objectives of mathematical instruction whereby the seven colleges cooperating in the study could be benefited by an awareness of the desirable objectives and the realization of their success or failure in attaining these objectives. The present study also proposed to assist institutions similar to the seven of this study by making the findings of this study available to them.

### Method and Procedure

In order to arrive at a solution of the problem, the following steps were taken:

1. A list of objectives for freshman and sophomore mathematics courses was formulated.
2. The opinions of a jury of experts and the opinions of the mathematics teachers in the colleges of the study were determined by the questionnaire method.
3. The extent of agreement between the jury of experts and the mathematics teachers was determined.
4. A test devised by the investigator was given to a sample of students of the seven colleges, and teaching materials, including outlines and syllabi, tests and examinations, and grades from these tests were analyzed with the idea of determining the objectives of the courses and the extent of realization of these objectives.

The objectives of the questionnaire were obtained from a search of the literature on mathematical education.

Criteria for the selection of the jury included some or all of the following accomplishments by the members:

1. Extensive and recent experience in teaching college mathematics.
2. Scholarly publications.

3. Interest in college mathematics education shown by one or more of the following:
  - a. Publications in mathematical journals.
  - b. Membership on national or regional committees dealing with the teaching of mathematics.
  - c. Head of the mathematics department in a leading college.
  - d. Author of a modern mathematics textbook for freshmen or sophomores.
  - e. Mathematics instructor especially concerned with mathematics education.

Outlines of courses, catalogs, and tests given in the first term of this year were analyzed to determine more fully the objectives of the individual institutions of the study.

A test, constructed by the writer and administered to a sample of thirty-two students, was designed to measure to some extent the achievement of some of the objectives of the questionnaire.

#### Analysis of Data and Findings

The twenty-eight members of the jury of experts rated each of the seventy-three objectives of the questionnaire with respect to their importance. A numerical value of 4, 3, 2, or 1 was assigned to an objective if the expert thought it to be highly desirable, of considerable value, of slight value, or of no value, respectively. The mean

weighted rating was obtained for each objective, as described in Chapter III, and ranked according to size. Those objectives of high rank were then taken as those considered desirable by the jury, while those of low rank were taken as those considered to be of little or no value. Using the same procedure, the same seventy-three objectives were rated by all teachers of freshman and sophomore mathematics in the cooperating colleges. The product-moment method was then used to determine the coefficient of correlation between the opinions of the jury of experts and the opinions of the teachers. The coefficient of correlation was found to be .78, thus showing a definite agreement concerning the relative values of most of the objectives.

Both experts and teachers rated most highly those objectives which are intangible, such as Objective No. 51, "Habit of evaluating the conclusion in light of the basic assumptions and the given data," and Objective No. 52, "Habit of solving problems independently, and the development of confidence in one's own ability."

The experts and teachers gave lowest ratings to those objectives dealing with "Ability to use the surveyor's transit," "Ability to use the slide rule and calculating machine," and "Concepts of spherical trigonometry."

The experts and teachers were generally agreed on what was highly desirable and what was of no value; the disagreements were mostly in the middle rankings where the scale used did not differentiate sharply between objectives

of considerable value and those of slight value. Objectives numbered 1, 2, 6, 7, 14, 24, 35, 49, 50, 51 and 52 were given top rankings by both groups, while objective numbers 4, 10, 13, 15, 19, 22, 32, 42, 63, 64, and 65 were ranked low by both groups.

The tests made and administered by the teachers in the first term of this year did not reveal attempts to measure attitudes, appreciations, habits, and interests of the students. The scores from these tests further revealed that the objectives which the teachers were evaluating were not being fully achieved.

That a large proportion of the desirable objectives were not being realized was shown by the low scores made by the sample of students on the test constructed by the writer. The mean score for all thirty-five students was 44.7.

### Conclusions

On the basis of the evaluation of data obtained in this study, and with the recognition of the limitations inherent in the study, the following conclusions appear to be warranted for the objectives of freshman and sophomore mathematics courses in the colleges of the study:

1. Consensus of opinions of mathematical educators regarding the importance of objectives can be determined, and this consensus can be used as a guide to determine the proper objectives for

mathematics courses.

2. Substantial agreement exists between the jury of mathematical experts and the group of teachers in the cooperating colleges as to the relative importance of objectives.
3. As a general rule, the objectives concerned with habits, appreciations, and attitudes are judged to be of great relative importance.
4. In general, the objectives concerned strictly with mathematical manipulations are judged to be relatively unimportant.
5. Objectives which logically should be realized in high school courses are judged relatively unimportant for college courses.
6. A careful analysis of the tests given by the classroom teachers reveals that the tests are limited to the measurement of the achievement of only a few of the recommended objectives. The test items are usually concerned with the objectives of mathematical skills and knowledge, while attitudes, habits, appreciations, and interests--the most important goals according to the experts and teachers--are not included.
7. The low scores made by the students who took the test constructed by the writer indicate that some of the recommended objectives are not being fully realized.



### Recommendations

The following recommendations are supported by the findings and conclusions of this study:

1. It is very important that the mathematics teachers of the cooperating colleges incorporate in the daily instruction and tests more aspects of the development of desirable habits, attitudes, appreciation, and interests.
2. Objectives which should properly be attained in high school should be omitted or passed over quickly.
3. Rigorous proofs in calculus should not be stressed.
4. Recommendations for further study along the following lines are made:
  - a. Evaluation of the attainment of the objective of mathematical training.
  - b. The attainment of objectives in the colleges of the study compared with the attainment in other colleges.
  - c. Ways and means by which instruction may be best organized to accomplish the given objectives.

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## OBJECTIVES FOR FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE MATHEMATICS COURSES

Directions: Please indicate your opinion of the value of each objective for freshman and sophomore mathematics courses by placing the number 4, 3, 2, or 1 before the statement of the objective according to the following scale:

- 4 The objective is highly desirable.  
3 The objective is of considerable value.  
2 The objective is of slight value.  
1 The objective is of no value.

- \_\_\_ 1. Skill in solving verbal problems and checking solutions.  
 \_\_\_ 2. Skill in arithmetical and algebraic fundamentals.  
 \_\_\_ 3. Ability to use logarithms.  
 \_\_\_ 4. Ability to use slide rule or calculating machine.  
 \_\_\_ 5. Ability to construct and interpret tables and graphs.  
 \_\_\_ 6. Ability to translate word statements into equations.  
 \_\_\_ 7. Ability to solve simple linear equations.  
 \_\_\_ 8. Ability to solve quadratic equations by two methods.  
 \_\_\_ 9. Ability to solve simple systems of linear equations.  
 \_\_\_ 10. Ability to solve cubic equations.  
 \_\_\_ 11. Skill in formulating problems.  
 \_\_\_ 12. Skill in making mathematical generalizations and discoveries.  
 \_\_\_ 13. Ability to use synthetic division.  
 \_\_\_ 14. Skill in the use of positive, negative, and fractional exponents.  
 \_\_\_ 15. Ability to solve systems of equations by determinants.  
 \_\_\_ 16. Ability to work with numbers of the form  $\sqrt{3}$ .  
 \_\_\_ 17. Ability to rationalize the denominators of fractions, such as  $1/1-2i$ .  
 \_\_\_ 18. Ability to prove simple theorems.  
 \_\_\_ 19. Ability to transform equations by translating and rotating axes.  
 \_\_\_ 20. Ability to find maxima and minima of simple functions.  
 \_\_\_ 21. Ability to use the laws of sines and cosines.  
 \_\_\_ 22. Ability use the law of tangents.  
 \_\_\_ 23. Ability to change radians to degrees and vice versa.  
 \_\_\_ 24. Ability to define certain mathematical terms precisely.  
 \_\_\_ 25. Ability to solve problems involving arithmetic and geometric progressions.  
 \_\_\_ 26. Ability to do certain simple geometric constructions.  
 \_\_\_ 27. Ability to interpolate and extrapolate in tables.  
 \_\_\_ 28. Ability to solve the right triangle.  
 \_\_\_ 29. Ability to find the mean, median, and standard deviation of statistical data.  
 \_\_\_ 30. Ability to solve oblique triangles.  
 \_\_\_ 31. Familiarity with inverse trigonometric functions.  
 \_\_\_ 32. Ability to use a surveyor's transit.  
 \_\_\_ 33. Ability to add, multiply, and divide complex numbers.  
 \_\_\_ 34. Ability to add and subtract vectors.  
 \_\_\_ 35. Ability to find the equation of a line given two points on the line.

- 33
- \_\_\_36. Ability to find the equation of a circle, given three points of the circle.
  - \_\_\_37. Ability to differentiate functions such as  $(1-3x^2)^5$ .
  - \_\_\_38. Ability to use mathematical symbols, such as  $\rightarrow$  and  $<$ .
  - \_\_\_39. Ability to use mathematical induction.
  - \_\_\_40. Ability to apply mathematics in other fields.
  - \_\_\_41. Ability to use the binomial theorem.
  - \_\_\_42. Ability to use the multinomial theorem.
  - \_\_\_43. Ability to solve simple inequalities.
  - \_\_\_44. Attitude of suspending judgment until sufficient evidence is available.
  - \_\_\_45. Stimulation of the imagination.
  - \_\_\_46. Appreciation of the beauty of mathematics.
  - \_\_\_47. Appreciation of the power and economy of mathematics.
  - \_\_\_48. Appreciation of the important role that mathematics has played in the development of civilization.
  - \_\_\_49. Habits of orderliness, accuracy, neatness, exactness of expression, concentration, and organization.
  - \_\_\_50. Habit of dissatisfaction with incompleteness, ambiguity, and incoherent arguments.
  - \_\_\_51. Habit of evaluating the conclusion in light of the basic assumptions and the given data.
  - \_\_\_52. Habit of solving problems independently, and the development of confidence in one's own ability.
  - \_\_\_53. Habit of checking mathematical operations.
  - \_\_\_54. Attitudes of cooperation, open-mindedness and tolerance.
  - \_\_\_55. Attitudes of curiosity, creativeness, and research.
  - \_\_\_56. Expansion of student's interest in mathematics.
  - \_\_\_57. Acquisition of the skills and habits involved in critical and constructive thinking.
  - \_\_\_58. Foundation for further and higher mathematics.
  - \_\_\_59. Understanding statistical measures, such as mean.
  - \_\_\_60. Understanding of the meaning of logarithms.
  - \_\_\_61. Knowledge of fundamental logical principles.
  - \_\_\_62. Knowledge of some direct and indirect methods of proof.
  - \_\_\_63. Knowledge of the history of our number system.
  - \_\_\_64. Concept of geometric terms such as median and incenter.
  - \_\_\_65. Concept of simple spherical trigonometry.
  - \_\_\_66. Understanding of the meaning of the sine of a NUMBER.
  - \_\_\_67. Understanding limit, continuity, function, derivative.
  - \_\_\_68. Concepts of group, field, and set.
  - \_\_\_69. Understanding of the rigorous proofs of the basic theorems of calculus.
  - \_\_\_70. Concepts of polar coordinates.
  - \_\_\_71. Knowledge of the relations between the roots and the coefficients of equations.
  - \_\_\_72. Knowledge of values of trigonometric functions of certain special angles such as,  $\sin 30^\circ = \frac{1}{2}$ .
  - \_\_\_73. Knowledge of permutation and combination formulas.

Please use back of sheet for comments.

JANE \_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDIX A

211 Thatcher Hall  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
October 22, 1957

Under the direction of Dr. James H. Zant of Oklahoma State University, I am conducting a study to determine the objectives of freshman and sophomore mathematics courses. Also, I hope to ascertain how well these objectives are being attained in certain liberal arts colleges in Texas.

One phase of the study is the appraisal by competent persons in the field of mathematics education of a list of objectives formulated from the literature. The desirable objectives are to be determined by an analysis of the opinions and suggestions obtained from the questionnaire.

I would appreciate your assistance in the completion of the study by filling in the enclosed questionnaire and returning it to me. A stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Yours truly,

James H. Means

JHM/bem  
enclosures

## APPENDIX B

211 Thatcher Hall  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
February 7, 1958

Dear Fellow-Teacher:

This is to request your participation and help in a doctoral study being made at Oklahoma State University. It is a study of the objectives of college mathematics courses through differential calculus. On the enclosed questionnaire, please express your opinion about each objective according to the directions on the questionnaire.

Although all objectives on the questionnaire may or may not apply to the courses that you teach, in grading the objectives, please think of yourself as a teacher of all the mathematics courses through differential calculus.

Your thoughtful response and the return of the attached instrument will be very much appreciated.

The results of the study will be summarized and the information will be available to you as soon as the study is completed.

Again, I thank you very much for your help.

Yours truly,

James H. Means

JHM

enclosures

## APPENDIX C

## COLLEGE MATHEMATICS TEST

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

List here all college mathematics courses you have complete  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTIONS: Place the appropriate letter A, B, C, D, or E in the parenthesis at the right of each question. (This is a test to determine how well certain objectives have been achieved. In order that a clear, true picture may be had, you are asked to do your best on this test)

- Which of the following is the largest?  
(A)  $27^{-2/3}$  (B)  $10^{-1}$  (C)  $4^{-3/2}$  (D)  $10/99$  (E)  $(3/2)^0$   
( )
- An automobile went up a hill at a speed of 10 miles an hour and down the same distance at a speed of 20 miles an hour. The average speed for the round trip was:  
(A)  $12\frac{1}{2}$  m.p.h. (B)  $13\frac{2}{3}$  m.p.h. (C)  $14\frac{1}{2}$  m.p.h.  
(D) 15 m.p.h. (E) none of these. ( )
- The points (6,12) and (0,-6) are connected by a straight line. Another point on this line is (A) (3,3) (B) (2,3)  
(C) (7,16) (D) (-1,-4) (E) (-3,-8) ( )
- The contradictory of the statement, "All men are honest" is (A) No men are honest (B) All men are dishonest  
(C) Some men are dishonest (D) No men are dishonest  
(E) Some men are honest. ( )
- If X is an acute angle such that  $\tan X = K/2$ ,  $\sin X = (?)$   
(A)  $K/(2+K)$  (B)  $2/\sqrt{4-K^2}$  (C)  $K/\sqrt{4-K^2}$  (D)  $2/\sqrt{4+K^2}$   
(E)  $K/\sqrt{4+K^2}$  ( )
- A plane flies 120 miles on a course  $60^\circ$  west of south. It then takes a course  $70^\circ$  east of south until it is directly south of its starting point. Its distance (in miles) from the starting point is (A)  $120\sin 20^\circ$   
(B)  $120\sin 50^\circ \cos 70^\circ$  (C)  $120\sin 50^\circ \sin 70^\circ$   
(D)  $120\sin 50^\circ$  (E)  $120\sin 50^\circ \csc 70^\circ$  ( )

7. If  $\log_{10}5 = 0.70$ ,  $\log_5 10 = (?)$   
 (A) 0.30 (B) 0.70 (C) 1.40 (D) 1.43 (E) 1.70 ( )
8. Trigonometric functions are (A) units of length  
 (B) abstract numbers (C) equations of condition  
 (D) identities (E) pure imaginaries ( )
9. The work of dividing a polynomial in  $x$  by  $x-r$  may be shortened by using (A) Horner's method (B) synthetic division (C) Descartes Rule of Signs (D) The Remainder Theorem (E) Transformation ( )
10.  $\sec(90^\circ - \theta) = (?)$  (A)  $\cos\theta$  (B)  $\cot\theta$  (C)  $\csc\theta$   
 (D)  $\sin\theta$  (E)  $\sec\theta$  ( )
11. The value of the determinant  $\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \end{vmatrix}$  is  
 (A) -8 (B) -4 (C) 0 (D) 4 (E) 8 ( )
12. What is the value of the discriminant of a quadratic equation whose roots are equal?  
 (A) -16 (B) -2 (C) 0 (D) 36 (E) 48 ( )
13. Rationalizing the denominator of  $\sqrt{3}/(2+i)$  makes use of  
 (A) synthetic division (B) polar coordinates  
 (C) Remainder theorem (D) graphs (E) conjugate complex numbers ( )
14. Which of the following is a rational integral equation?  
 (A)  $x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 3$  (B)  $3e^x = 4$  (C)  $\log x = 42$  (D)  $x^{18} = 1$   
 (E)  $x^2 + 2x^{3/2} - 1 = 0$  ( )
15. According to Descartes Rule of Signs  $x^6 + 4x^4 - 3x^2 + 6 = 0$  has  
 (A) at least two positive roots (B) at most two imaginary roots  
 (C) at least two negative roots (D) at most two negative roots (E) only one imaginary root ( )
16. In the equation  $x^4 - 8x^3 + 42x - 12 = 0$ , the sum of the products of the roots taken two at a time is  
 (A) -42 (B) -8 (C) 0 (D) 8 (E) 42 ( )
17. The curve  $y=f(x)$  with derivatives  $f'(x)$  and  $f''(x)$  has a maximum at  $x=c$  if  
 (A)  $c$  is a root of  $dy/dx = 0$   
 (B)  $c$  is a root of  $d^2y/dx^2 = 0$  (C)  $c$  is a root of  $f(x) = 0$   
 (D)  $c$  is a root of  $f'(x) = 0$  and for  $b$  and  $d$  arbitrarily near  $c$ ,  $f'(d) > 0$  for  $d > c$  and  $f'(b) < 0$  for  $b < c$   
 (E)  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) < 0$ . ( )

18. Which one of the following would you use to find most quickly the equation of a line with slope  $m$ , going through the point  $(x_1, y_1)$ ?  
 (A)  $(y-y_1)/(x-x_1) = (y_1-y_2)/(x_1-x_2)$  (B)  $Ax+By = C$   
 (C)  $y = mx+b$  (D)  $y-y_1 = m(x-x_1)$  (E)  $y_1 = mx_1$   
 ( )
19. The principal value of  $\text{Arcsin}(-\sqrt{3}/2)$ , expressed in radians is (A)  $\pi/3$  (B)  $\pi/4$  (C)  $\pi/6$   
 (D)  $-\pi/3$  (E)  $-3\pi/2$  ( )
20. The fifth term in the expansion of  $(1+y)^{10}$  is  
 (A)  $y^5$  (B)  $(1+y)^5$  (C)  $210y^4$  (D)  $210y^5$   
 (E)  $252y^5$  ( )
21. The mantissa for  $\log 2670$  is 0.4265; the mantissa for  $\log 2680$  is 0.4281. The logarithm of 267.3 is equal approximately to (A) 2.4260 (B) 2.4270 (C) 2.4276  
 (D) 2.4286 (E) 3.4270 ( )
22. What are the coordinates of the foci of the ellipse  
 $4x^2 + 9y^2 = 36$ ? (A)  $(\pm 6, 0)$  (B)  $(\pm 5, 0)$  (C)  $(\pm\sqrt{5}, 0)$   
 (D)  $(0, \pm\sqrt{5})$  (E)  $(0, \pm 5)$
23. The equation of a line through  $(2, 4)$  and parallel to  
 $3x + 2y = -1$  is (A)  $3x + 2y - 14 = 0$  (B)  $2x + 3y - 16 = 0$   
 (C)  $2x + 3y - 8 = 0$  (D)  $2x - 3y - 8 = 0$   
 (E)  $2x - 3y - 16 = 0$  ( )

## APPENDIX D

TABLE VI

TABLE FOR THE CALCULATION OF THE  
COEFFICIENT OF CORRELATION

jec- ve mber	Score of Experts	Score of Teachers	Deviation from Mean of X	Deviation from Mean of Y	$x^2$	$y^2$	$xy$
	X	Y	x	y			
	3.57	3.79	.42	.51	.1764	.2601	.21
	3.57	3.79	.42	.51	.1764	.2601	.21
	2.74	3.21	-.41	-.07	.1681	.0049	.02
	2.25	2.32	-.90	-.96	.8100	.9216	.86
	3.32	3.37	.17	.09	.0289	.0081	.01
	3.64	3.74	.49	.46	.2401	.2116	.22
	3.54	3.79	.39	.51	.1521	.2601	.19
	3.11	3.32	-.04	.04	.0016	.0016	-.00
	3.50	3.37	.35	.09	.1225	.0081	.01
	1.93	2.63	-1.22	-.65	1.4884	.4225	-.79
	3.64	2.79	.49	-.49	.2401	.2401	-.24
	3.68	3.15	.53	-.13	.2809	.0169	-.06
	2.36	2.74	-.79	-.54	.6241	.2916	-.42
	3.54	3.74	.39	.46	.1521	.2116	.17
	2.61	2.68	-.54	-.60	.2916	.3600	-.32
	3.07	3.32	-.08	.04	.0064	.0016	-.00
	2.82	3.32	-.33	.04	.1089	.0016	-.01
	3.61	3.42	.46	.14	.2116	.0196	.06
	2.79	2.84	-.36	-.44	.1296	.1936	-.14
	3.43	3.42	.28	.14	.0784	.0196	.01
	3.21	3.32	.06	.04	.0036	.0016	.00
	2.18	2.84	-.97	-.44	.9409	.1936	-.42
	3.11	3.68	-.04	.40	.0016	.1600	-.01
	3.57	3.63	.42	.35	.1764	.1225	.14
	2.96	3.32	-.19	.04	.0361	.0016	-.00
	2.70	3.26	-.45	-.02	.2025	.0004	.00
	3.18	3.39	.03	.11	.0009	.0121	.00
	3.18	3.79	.03	.51	.0009	.2601	.01
	2.96	3.15	-.19	-.13	.0361	.0169	.00
	2.36	3.26	-.79	-.02	.6241	.0004	.01
	3.07	3.15	-.08	-.13	.0064	.0169	.00
	1.43	1.90	-1.72	-1.38	2.9584	1.9044	2.31
	2.96	3.15	-.19	-.13	.0361	.0169	.00
	3.11	2.95	-.04	-.33	.0016	.1089	.00
	3.54	3.68	.39	.40	.1521	.1600	.11
	2.89	3.32	-.26	.04	.0676	.0016	-.00
	3.39	3.42	.24	.14	.0576	.0196	.00

TABLE VI (continued)

jec- ve mber	Score of Experts	Score of Teachers	Deviation from Mean of X	Deviation from Mean of Y	$x^2$	$y^2$	$xy$
	X	Y	x	y	$x^2$	$y^2$	$xy$
	3.57	3.21	.42	-.07	.1764	.0049	-.02
	3.39	2.95	.24	-.33	.0576	.1089	-.07
	3.61	3.53	.46	.25	.2116	.0625	.11
	3.18	3.47	.03	.19	.0009	.0361	.00
	2.11	2.47	-1.04	-.81	1.0816	.6561	.84
	3.41	3.26	.26	-.02	.0676	.0004	-.00
	3.64	3.68	.49	.40	.2401	.1600	.19
	3.48	3.58	.33	.30	.1089	.0900	.09
	3.37	3.58	.22	.30	.0484	.0900	.06
	3.44	3.58	.29	.30	.0841	.0900	.08
	3.26	3.74	.11	.46	.0121	.2116	.05
	3.61	3.79	.46	.51	.2116	.2601	.23
	3.78	3.74	.36	.46	.3969	.2116	.28
	3.85	3.83	.70	.55	.4900	.3025	.38
	3.74	3.79	.59	.51	.3481	.2601	.30
	3.50	3.74	.35	.46	.1225	.2116	.16
	3.26	3.63	.11	.35	.0121	.1225	.03
	3.54	3.53	.39	.25	.1521	.0625	.09
	3.59	3.53	.44	.25	.1036	.0625	.11
	3.48	3.47	.33	.19	.1089	.0361	.06
	3.39	3.44	.24	.16	.0576	.0256	.03
	3.11	3.16	-.04	-.12	.0016	.0144	.00
	3.33	3.47	.18	.19	.0324	.0361	.03
	3.46	3.16	.31	-.12	.0961	.0144	-.03
	3.50	3.05	.35	-.23	.1225	.0529	-.08
	2.71	2.95	-.44	-.33	.1936	.1089	.14
	2.29	2.84	-.86	-.44	.7396	.1936	.37
	2.18	2.49	-.97	-.79	.9409	.6241	.76
	3.23	3.39	.08	.11	.0064	.0121	.00
	3.61	3.32	.46	.04	.2116	.0016	.01
	3.00	2.44	-.15	-.84	.0225	.7056	.12
	2.64	2.69	-.51	-.59	.2601	.3481	.30
	3.29	3.11	.14	-.17	.0196	.0289	-.02
	2.89	3.33	-.26	.05	.0676	.0025	-.01
	3.11	3.74	-.04	.46	.0016	.2116	-.01
	2.86	3.16	-.29	-.12	.0841	.0144	.03

Let  $\bar{X}$  and  $\bar{Y}$  denote the means of the X's, and Y's, respectively,

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum X}{N} = \frac{229.93}{73} = 3.15$$

$$\bar{Y} = \frac{\sum Y}{N} = \frac{239.7}{73} = 3.28$$

$$r = \frac{\sum xy}{\sqrt{\sum x^2 \sum y^2}} = \frac{11.3832}{\sqrt{(17.762)(12.147)}} = \frac{11.3832}{14.68} = .775$$

The formula for determining r, the coefficient of correlation, is given by Garrett as:

$$r = \frac{\sum xy}{\sqrt{\sum x^2 \sum y^2}}$$

(coefficient of correlation when deviations are taken from the means of the two distributions)

In which x and y are deviations from the actual means and  $\sum x^2$  and  $\sum y^2$  are the sums of the squared deviations in x and y taken from the two means. Using Table VI in this Appendix, the coefficient of correlation was calculated as shown above.

In testing the reliability of the obtained coefficient of correlation, the method suggested by Garrett was considered appropriate. Garrett stated:

A mathematically more defensible method of testing the significance of an r, especially when the coefficient is high, is to convert r into R. A. Fisher's z-function and find the SE of z. The function z has two advantages over r: (1) its sampling distribution



is approximately normal and (2) its SE depends only upon the size of the sample  $N$ , and is independent of the size of  $r$ .<sup>1</sup>

With data from Table VI and the formula  $SE_z = 1/\sqrt{N-3}$ , the reliability of the coefficient of correlation is obtained:

$$SE_z = 1/\sqrt{73-3} = .119 \text{ or } .12$$

$$z = 1.05 \text{ (Table C in Garrett's book)}^2$$

The .95 confidence-interval for the true  $z$  is .81 to 1.29 (that is,  $1.05 \pm 1.96(.12)$  or  $1.05 \pm .24$ ). Converting the  $z$ 's back into  $r$ 's, a confidence-interval of from .67 to .86 is obtained. Thus, the fiduciary probability is .95 that this interval contains the true  $r$ .

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<sup>1</sup>Henry E. Garrett, p. 198.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., p. 426.

VITA

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