

From the President of ACM—

The ACM Executive Committee met in September in Pittsburgh, and at Washington, D. C. in October and again in November. One of the main items of business has been the preparation of a budget to be submitted to the Council at the December 15th meeting during the EJCC in New York City.

The Executive Committee proposed a budget of \$180,000 for 1961. Publications are expected to cost \$121,000 and administrative expenses \$35,000, with the balance covering aid to chapters, capital equipment, a contingency fund and miscellaneous items. Dues are expected to bring in \$100,000, advertising \$50,000, sales of publications \$25,000, and meetings \$5000.

Recent appointments include:

W. B. FRITZ	ACM representative on the X3 Committee of the American Standards Association
LOUIS FEIN	Chairman, ACM Education Committee
SAUL GORN	Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee on Relationships with Other Societies
R. W. HAMMING	ACM representative to the AAAS
ALAN PERLIS	ACM representative on the CODASYL Development Advisory Board
I. J. SELIGSOHN	Chairman, ACM Public Relations Committee
G. M. SILVERN	Chairman, Special Interest Committee on Digital Computer Programmer Training

The ACM will co-sponsor with the American Mathematical Society and the Association for Symbolic Logic a Symposium on Recursive Functions in April, 1961. Professor John McCarthy of M.I.T. is a member of the committee which is planning the symposium, and it is expected that a number of the speakers will be primarily concerned with computing machinery. No financial support is requested from ACM.

The Utah chapter has invited your president to be the speaker at their December 20th meeting. This chapter also serves part of Idaho.

I and 250 other people attended the ACM Compiler Symposium held at the National Bureau of Standards on November 17th and 18th. This meeting was sponsored by the Computer Language Special Interest Committee. It was the second symposium they have held this year, the first being in Philadelphia in May. I am hoping that the success of these two meetings will encourage other special interest activities to hold similar meetings.

HARRY D. HUSKEY

SYMPOSIA: Mathematical Problems in the Biological Sciences Recessive Functions

A Symposium on MATHEMATICAL PROBLEMS IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, cosponsored by the Office of Ordnance Research and the National Science Foundation, will be held in connection with the April Meeting of the American Mathematical Society at the Hotel New Yorker in New York City, on April 6, 7, and 8.

The objective of the Symposium will be to inform and interest mathematicians in the problems of biology and medicine, and to stimulate investigation of topics in both pure and applied domains. Some of the topics of the symposium are: *Self-reproduction problems*: How can machines be designed that are capable of reproducing themselves? *Reliability problems*: How design reliable machines (or organisms) using unreliable components? *Operation of the nervous system*: Analysis of the actual brain; Synthesis of computers to stimulate the brain; and *Mathematical problems of growth and form*; *Hydrodynamical problems of circulation, hormones, enzymes, etc.*; Information theory, mathematical logic, and combinatorics arising in: *Problems in genetics, Statistical theory, Classical theory, and Genetic 'code'*.

The selection of speakers for the Symposium has been delegated to an Invitations and Steering Committee consisting of Dr. S. M.

ULAM (Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory), *Chairman*; DR. RICHARD E. BELLMAN (Rand Corporation), *Secretary*; DR. JOHN JACQUEZ (Sloan Kettering Institute for Cancer Research); Professor CLAUD E. SHANNON (Massachusetts Institute of Technology); Professor ANTHONY BARTHOLOMAY (Biophysics Research Laboratory, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Harvard Medical School).

The Symposium on RECURSIVE FUNCTIONS, jointly sponsored by the Association for Symbolic Logic, the **Association for Computing Machinery**, and the American Mathematical Society, with financial support from project FOCUS of the Institute for Defense Analyses, will be held on the first two days of the meeting. Three sessions are planned, the first two on the notion of recursive functions and traditional applications, and the third on such newer applications as to computing, automata, problem solving, etc.

The Organizing Committee of the Symposium consists of Professors S. C. KLEENE (University of Wisconsin), *Chairman*; J. B. ROSSER (Cornell University), J. C. E. DEKKER (Rutgers, the State University), JOSEPH R. SHOENFIELD (Duke University), and JOHN MCCARTHY (Massachusetts Institute of Technology). The Symposium will contribute to and be a continuation of the reports in the same general field as last year's Symposium on the Structure of Languages.