CONTENTS

EDITORIAL

This is the final issue of the Newsletter in my term as Editor and I should like to avail of the opportunity to make some comments on the development of the Newsletter since I took over the job.

As you are aware, I've encouraged authors to write in an expository fashion so that a wide range of the readership can easily understand and benefit from reading the articles. There is always a danger that mathematicians will confine their expositions (both written and oral) to a narrow audience of colleagues with similar interests in narrow fields. This tendency runs counter to the development of mathematics which depends very much on the cross fertilization of ideas and techniques from one area to another. If we are interested in our work, it is good to convey this enthusiastically to people working in other fields and so stimulate interaction between various fields of specialization. The specialist research journals and seminars provide opportunities to communicate with colleagues having similar interests; this Newsletter helps mathematicians to reach out to a wider group. To do this, it is clear that the exposition should be less technical and less demanding of background knowledge on those reading. The difficulty involved in presentations of this type is obvious: just how much or how little can one assume? But I do believe that the effort involved in overcoming the difficulty is beneficial to both the presenter and to the readers. The former is awakened to the context of his work within the wider field of all mathematics, while those who read the article gain insight into other areas of mathematics and also perhaps get some ideas about possible solutions to problems in their own areas.

During my term as Editor, I've considered the Newsletter to be a publication for exposition of the type outlined above.

To conclude, I wish to thank all those who contributed articles during the past three years. A special word of thanks is due to those whose assistance was invaluable: Pat Fitzpatrick (Associate Editor), Phil Rippon (Problem Page) and Leslie Brookes (Typist).

Donal Hurley

IRISH MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

Notice of Ordinary Meeting

Thursday, April 4th, 1985, 12:15 p.m.

at

Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Friday, December 21st, 1984

at

Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies

The meeting commenced at 12.15 p.m. with Professor A.G. O'Farrell in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read.

Matters Arising

The question of the post-graduate awards was regarded as a dead letter. No progress had been made in relation to the Young Scientist's Award. The Massera Campaign was over. M. Clancy reported that some progress in the talks with the IMTA had occurred. It was proposed that reciprocal membership without voting rights might be obtained at a cost of £1.50. The IMTA still had some misgivings and would consider this proposal at a delegates meeting. This and any subsequent proposals will be considered by the new Committee.

Secretary's Report

This was accepted on a proposal from S. Tobin, seconded