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Tracy's Rare Book Gave New Math Idea

By MARION THOMPSON

An antique leather trunk containing early editions of heavy, worn, ornate books, recently donated to the college library, renews an interest in the life and work at Michigan State college of the first professor of mathematics, a pioneer and authority in the use of cancellation, Calvin Tracy.

The gift of Professor Tracy's collection came from a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Milton I. Tracy, formerly of Scholeraut, who now resides in California.

TRACY WAS AUTHOR

Tracy was the author of a book entitled, "A New System of Arithmetic—the Principle of Cancellation," several editions of which were published during the decade of 1840. It was written when cancellation was so little known as to establish Professor Tracy in some minds as inventor of cancellation.

However, according to Louis C. Karpinski of the University of Michigan's department of mathematics, Carl Gork first introduced this method in America in a book published in 1823. Two other arithmetics were published by Professor Tracy in 1850, but neither mentions cancellation in the title.

IS NO LONGER IN PRINT

Jackson Towne, college librarian, states that copies of Professor Tracy's older books are not in the library. Shortly after the books were published, according to Mr. Towne, they were in common use as text books, and as such were not purchased. They are no longer in print. However, the lack is remedied through a device recently acquired for the library called the "microfilm reader." Tracy's book, photographed on film, has been purchased from the New York public library, and through use of the lantern film-reader may now be easily read in the Michigan State college library in its entirety.

Its pages are shown clearly on the reading glass that is a part of the projector, or they may be enlarged upon a wall screen.

BEGAN HERE IN '37

Born in 1805 in Connecticut, Calvin Tracy received his A.M. degree in mathematics at Dartmouth, and taught for some time at Norwich Academy, Conn., and at Cornish Mass. His teaching activities at Michigan State college, then the Michigan Agricultural college, began March 14, 1857. In November of that year he was made secretary pro-tem of the college, holding that position until May, 1859. After resigning from the faculty in 1860 because of ill health, the professor conducted an insurance office in North Lansing until his death in 1889. Prior to leaving college, Professor Tracy married Harriet A. Sessions, a teacher in the first girls' seminary in Lansing, the Misses Rogers' Female Institute, now a part of the present Michigan School for the Blind.

INCLUDES PORTRAIT

The contribution to the library of Professor Tracy's books and the leather trunk, which the mathematician supposedly used at Dartmouth, also included an interesting painted portrait of the professor in an antique wooden frame.

Five attractively bound books, of which the gilt-edged pages are turning yellow, are in the collection. The "Cyclopedia of English Literature, Vol. I," by Robert Chambers, which was published in 1847, was presented to Professor Tracy by his pupils on Dec. 25, 1848, according to an inscription in the front of the book. Another volume is the "Webster's Unabridged Dictionary" of 1851, dated in Professor Tracy's handwriting and with his signature, 1855. Printed testimony about the dictionary in the front of the book are an unusual feature, and a letter praising the work from Queen Victoria of Great Britain is included.

WHERE HE IS LIBRARY

Also in the collection is a Greek edition of the Bible, "Vita, Theologia, Grammatica," published in 1824 in Leipzig, and obtained by Tracy in 1829; the "Ecological History of Europe, Pamphlet," and "A Historical View of the Council of Nice," by Cruice and Bosc, dated in 1833; and the "Cyclopedia of Religious Knowledge," published in 1836.

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Qualified applicants may start their courses in March, May or June.

Further information concerning flying cadet training may be obtained from the military department or by writing to the commanding general, sixth corps area, Post-office building, Chicago, Ill.

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Programs and favors, Mary Benning, chairman; Mary Ellen Wickens, and Sheila Gresh, refreshments; Shirley Gresh, chairman; Mary Klumpp, and Dorothy Jean Brown, Margie Pease, and June Elliot, are in charge of publicity, while Maria Sanford, Jean Brundage, and Barbara Gritten are directing clean up.

Patrons for the party include Mr. and Mrs. F. Morse Cooke, Mr. and Mrs. Donald O'Hara, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Funk, and Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Sanford.

AUCTION

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HEALTH WAS POOR

College grounds at that time were swampy and at times more than half of the students were out of classes at one time because of sickness brought about by working in unhealthy conditions on the farm.

Expulsion by absence without permission was frequent and dissatisfaction among students was often high. Because of these circumstances, a feeling of futility sometimes arose.

However, a few persons believed in the future success of the college and fought for that belief, and the college did not go on the auctioneer's block.

College-Owned Vehicles Vary From Busses to Threshers

By Tom Greene

Everything from six-ton trucks to motorcycles, threshing machines to lawn mowers, in fact, any machine that uses gasoline or Diesel power is under the care of F. A. Trumpower, foreman of the Michigan State college maintenance garage.

Recent addition of a 12-passenger sedan bus and a six-ton truck to the M. S. C. fleet brought the total number of licenses issued to the college to 91.

Twelve of the licenses are for trailers, but there are enough motorized vehicles left to use an average of 1,000 gallons of gas each week.

NEW BUS IS FOURTH

The new bus is the fourth belonging to the college; they are used to transport practice teachers, athletic teams, crop judging teams, and for field trips. The new truck, listed at six tons, but able to carry 18 in a pinch, is used for moving bleachers and other heavy property.

Specialized equipment listed includes the radio truck used for WKAR and its two short wave stations, WRNSC and WEXQV, nine power lawn mowers, and a motorcycle belonging to the police force.

ment is that not one frozen radiator, cracked engine block, failure to start or any of the many other ailments common to automobiles during the cold season has been reported thus far this winter.

Faculty Folk Plan Dance

Coy Ecklund and his band will play for the February Faculty Folk meeting at a formal Valentine dance, February 10, in the Union ballroom from 9 until 12 p. m.

Mrs. Paul C. Morrison is general chairman of the affair. Mrs. H. A. Berg and Mrs. C. C. Langham are chairmen of music and programs, respectively.

Mrs. S. G. Bergquist heads the ticket committee, assisted by Mrs. C. H. Jefferson, Mrs. E. D. Devereaux, Mrs. B. E. Hartouch, Mrs. R. F. Horwood, Mrs. E. E. Kinnear, Mrs. G. H. Hill, Mrs. H. C. Ratzke, Mrs. L. C. Hughes, Mrs. H. L. Seaton, Mrs. W. R. Fee, Mrs. L. N. Field, Mrs. R. K. Stein, Mrs. F. A. Collins, Mrs. J. M. Moore, Mrs. A. G. Wiedemann, Mrs. V. G. Grove and Mrs. E. K. Sales.

Head of decorations committee is Mrs. C. M. Beachum. Committee members are Mrs. E. L. Ball, Mrs. C. D. Ball, Mrs. E. B. Boyer, Mrs. J. A. Byram, Mrs. R. A. Fenrell, Mrs. M. B. Goodwin, Mrs. J. G. Hays, Mrs. O. Mason, Mrs. S. H. Newman, Mrs. R. Norman, Mrs. J. A. Person and Mrs. H. J. Wyngarden.

Before hints are in charge of where hints are Mrs. W. J. McFarland, Mrs. R. T. Ohi, Mrs. L. M. Folkers, Mrs. W. S. Gilliam, Mrs. D. L. Gibson, Mrs. E. A. Finney, Mrs. L. F. Schneider and Mrs. A. Mick.

CHINESE

(Continued from Page 1) ... riculum is being conducted as well as on the scope of experimental activities and technical cooperation with governmental and commercial enterprises for development and utilization of forests in Western China.

To the inquiry as to what Michigan State college is doing in reply to the request, Professor Herbert replied, "we are cooperating to the utmost."

Auditor Will Crown MSC Ice Queen

Brown to Preside at Ceremony, Ice Review

Vernon J. Brown, auditor general of Michigan, will preside at the coronation Saturday of the Michigan State Winter Sports Queen, it was announced yesterday by the ice carnival committee, in general charge of M. S. C.'s second annual winter sports carnival.

NAME JUDGES

Judges who will choose the ice queen are Andy DeVries, advertising manager of a Lansing department store; Clifford McKibbin, Sr., amateur figure skater; and Marie Walt, M.S.C. alumna who has skated with the Detroit Figure Skating club.

Members of the court from which judges will select the queen are Betty Koronski, Sarah Jane Baxter, Betty Townsend, Doris Buzard, and Margaret Larobardiere. Scene of the ceremony will be the Queen's ball in Demonstration hall, immediately following the ice show. Frank Winegar's orchestra of Detroit is to play.

SHOW FEATURES RACES

Ice show Saturday afternoon and evening, during which the Queen will be selected, will include, among other features, races, figure skating, and a hockey game. Prizes are offered for race winners and a timekeeper will be on hand to check records.

Music during the ice show will be provided by records and a public address system. Refreshments are to be served at the rink from 2:30 to 9 p. m. Hockey game during the ice show will be played by two teams made up of State men, the Upper Peninsula club team and a Royal Oak team.

Door prizes to be offered at the dance in the evening. Tickets, which are limited in number, are on sale in the Union, the Smoke shop and in all dormitories, fraternities, and sororities.

As a result of the last World war, a golf championship for one-armed golfers has been held in England.

New Stores To Open

Three new stores, occupying the location formerly held by the O'Connor establishment on Grand River, will open soon to the public.

Norman Kesel, floriculture graduate of Michigan State last June, will open a flower shop next Friday at 113 East Grand River. The store will be stocked with a complete line of cut flowers, plants, and gifts, and offer landscaping service.

Sporting goods store at 117 East Grand River will be opened soon by R. P. Brunke, resident of East Lansing. Occupying the center store, will probably be Barratt's shoe repair shop. Barratt has his temporary establishment in the basement of Strothers' grocery store on Abbot road.

Day! LANE SISTERS Last "FOUR WIVES" ... WE GUARANTEE! ... WE WISH TO OFFER our sincere personal endorsement of the most enjoyable, brilliant, "off-ferent" picture in years! THE MANAGEMENT.

Robert CUMMINGS - GREY *GLORIA JEAN *THE UNDER-PUP ... There's one in every family!

DEULAN DONOH *VIRGINIA WIDLER *MARGARET LINDAY *C. ABBEY SMITH *BILLY GILBERT *ANN GELIS *RAYMOND WALDRON *PAUL COVINO *SAMUEL S. WOODS

A JOE PASTERNAK PRODUCTION ... SHEDD DELIGHTS "Mechanix Illustrated" Novelty

Bowling RAINBOW RECREATION Billiards

ARE YOU HAVING A PARTY, OR AN AMATEUR CONTEST

Good music is the most important thing at a dance. It costs no more to engage orchestras that are trained and organized. Help Yourself by Hiring Your Fellow Students Who are Members of

AMERICAN FEDERATION of MUSICIANS LOCAL 303 Call Secretary, Mrs. C. H. Dewey, 5-5520, for List of Leaders

FOR VALENTINE'S DAY! JEWELRY WITH THE COLLEGE SEAL

BRACELETS JACKETS COMPACTS PINS EVENING BAGS CIGARETTE CASES CIGARETTE LIGHTERS

STATE COLLEGE BOOK STORE 130 WEST GRAND RIVER

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TRAFFIC

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