

## **A Montclair State College and Newark Public Schools Connection**

**During the 1940's and 1950's, there was a trio of young secondary mathematics teachers from the Newark Public Schools who initiated city-wide activities in mathematics education. This trio included Ernest R. Ranucci from Weequahic High School, Harold A. Gouss from Central High School and later on from South Side High School, and Max A. Sobel from Robert Treat Junior High School who all graduated from Montclair State College in 1933, 1937 and 1947, respectively.**

**This trio studied under the noted duo of Professors Howard F. Fehr and Virgil S. Mallory who were leaders in mathematics education at the state and national levels at that time. Dr. Fehr later moved to Teachers College-Columbia University and influenced many New Jersey educators who obtained advanced degrees there. Dr. Mallory became head of the mathematics department at Montclair State College nka Montclair State University and influenced many New Jersey educators who later became noted in their own careers at the state and national mathematics education level also.**

**These five mathematics educators also served as Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey (AMTNJ) Presidents: Mallory 1932-33, Fehr 1941-42, Ranucci 1955-56, Sobel 1958-59 and Gouss 1961-62.**

**Scroll down for a reprint of Newark city-wide mathematics activities held in 1951.**

### **The Newark Mathematics Fair, Newark Public Schools April 25, 1951**

- 680 SCHOOL SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS THE NEWARK MATHEMATICS FAIR Last year the teachers of mathematics in the secondary schools of Newark, N. J., felt the need for joining together in assaulting the problems which beset secondary mathematics today, both on a local and national scale. Several meet- ings were held culminating in the formal organization of the Newark Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The two major program meetings for the year brought forth first a lively discussion of the new Ninth Year Mathematics Cur- rriculum in Newark, and secondly, an interesting talk and discussion led by Prof. Howard Fehr, Head of the Mathematics Department, Teachers College, Colum- bia University, on "The Gifted Pupil in Mathematics." The Program Committee, under the leadership of Ernest R. Ranucci, Head of the Weequahic High Mathematics Dept. then embarked on our first major project, a Mathematics Fair. Enlisting the aid of our members and their stu- dents, the Mathematics Dept. of Montclair State Teachers College, especially instructor George Kays and some of his students; and the facilities of Arts High School, made available by its principal, Frederick Seamster, the committee gathered sufficient material of interest to make April 25, 1951 a red-letter day for mathematics in Newark. At tables in the Gym were displayed many mathematical models and applica- tions, geometric designs and drawings. Two notables among the hundreds of visitors were Michael

McGreal, Asst.-Supt. of Schools in Newark and Dr. Virgil S. Mallory, Head of the Math. Dept. of M.S.T.C. Later, in the auditorium, after a welcoming address by Harold Gouss, Pres. of the N.C.T.M., Mr. Ranucci introduced speakers on the abacus, soap film experiments, history of mathematics, and the making of artistic geometric models, the three former being students, the latter Charles Goeller, instructor at the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts. The finale of the program was a quiz conducted by Max Sobel teacher at Robert Treat Jr. High. All visitors received mathematical programs and the contestants in the quiz were awarded prizes, the winner receiving a slide rule plus ten "humorous" rules for its use. As an initial effort in the stimulation of interest in mathematical education in Newark this Fair became, by virtue of the cooperation it engendered among all those involved, an inspiration for future plans along this line. In addition to those already mentioned special thanks should be given to other members of the program committee: Miss R. Meyerson of Cleveland Jr. High, Mrs. E. Katz of Webster Jr. High, Mr. N. Chinoy, and Mr. P. Clammurro both of Arts Higli. The new officers elected for the year 1951-1952 are Pres.: Harold A. Gouss of Central High Vice-Pres.: Max Sobel of Robert Treat Jr. High Treas.-Sec.: Ruth Meyerson of Cleveland Jr. High

**THE SONOTEST** The Radiological Corporation of America has announced the availability of a new instrument for the measurement of ultrasound intensity. Produced by the world famous Siemens-Reiniger organization, this instrument, called "SON- OTEST," should find wide application in any research laboratory concerned with the investigation of ultrasonic effects. The Siemens SONOTEST indicates the transmitted ultrasonic power on a scale calibrated directly in Watts. The average intensity in Watts/cm.<sup>2</sup> is easily obtained by dividing the integral power reading (total Watts) by the transmitting area of the respective irradiation head (cm.<sup>2</sup>). The instrument in effect measures the mechanical sound radiation pressure. The SONOTEST can be used for under-water measurements and will give indications in any desired position. The range of the meter is from 0 to 60 watts. Readings are subject to an error of less than ±5% within the frequency range from 0.175 Me/sec, to 2.4 Me/sec.