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Announcement: 8th International Congress on Mathematical Education

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us that the axiomatic method possessed intrinsic limitations even when confined to the natural numbers. According to Ernst Snapper, "It is evident that such a foundation is not necessary for technical mathematical research, but there are still those among us who yearn for it. The author (Snapper) believes that the key to the foundations of mathematics lies hidden somewhere among the philosophical roots of logicism, intuitionism, and formalism" [2]. We push the frontiers of mathematics possibly "in the belly of paradox."

CONCLUSION

In a moving ABC documentary, entitled *The Monastery*, interviewers visited a Massachusetts monastery. They gained exquisite access to the candid and private feelings of the monks. One monk questioned his life, saying that he had no direct evidence that God existed. Another admitted his pain at not having had a family. Their touching honesty suggested that they had seldom if ever discussed these issues.

A decade later, it may be time for us to discuss the relation between our isolating and esoteric mathematical endeavors and their long-term influence toward people. Both monastics and mathematicians currently live in a shadow world, when it comes to understanding our long-term effects upon society. If monastics can open themselves up to scrutiny by television, perhaps mathematicians can follow suit and candidly discuss the role of mathematicians in society. We may need help from qualitative psychologists like the visionary Amedeo Giorgi. The Berlin wall has fallen; it is time to break the more formidable walls separating collegiate disciplines.

REFERENCES

- [1] Henry, Patrick and Donald Swearer. *For the Sake of the World*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1989.
- [2] Snapper, Ernst. "The Three Crises in Mathematics: Logicism, Intuitionism, and Formalism", *Mathematics Magazine*. 52: 4, Sept. 29. 1979, p.214.

8th International Congress on Mathematical Education • Sevilla, Spain • July 14-21, 1996

The **8th International Congress on Mathematical Education (ICME-8)** will be held in Sevilla, Spain during July 14-21, 1996. ICME-8 will aim to increase the development of mathematical education in order to improve the learning and teaching of mathematics.

The Congress will include a wide variety of scientific activities and an extensive cultural and social program. Between 3,500 and 4,000 participants are expected to attend. Principal activities include plenary and ordinary lectures, working groups, topic groups, round tables, workshops, national presentations, short presentations, projects, films, and special exhibits. There will also be exhibitions of textbooks, software, and other teaching materials. Each participant will receive a copy of the Congress proceedings.

The First Announcement for ICME-8 has been published. To request a copy of the Second Announcement, send your name, address, and e-mail address to: ICME-8, Apartado de Correos 4172, 41080 Sevilla, España; fax 34-5-4218334. Information on ICME-8 will be posted on the World Wide Web at the URL: <http://icme8.us.es/ICME8.html>.