

EDITORIAL

There are three items I wish to bring to the reader's attention. This year ESSO will no longer be sponsoring Parabola as the company has done in the past. Such support was in fact critical in allowing Parabola to survive. Fortunately TPF & C (Towers, Ferrin, Forster and Crosby) is now sponsoring our magazine. TPF & C is one of the world's leading actuarial and management consultancy firms and we are privileged to be associated with the company. As it happens it is particularly appropriate that we are sponsored by such a company as it employs a considerable number of talented graduates from specialities such as mathematics, computing science and economics.

It is with pleasure too that I draw your attention to the article by Paul Erdos. Paul Erdos is one of the most famous mathematicians in the world and is a very close friend of George Szekeres who founded Parabola over twenty three years ago. Professor Erdos is well known for offering monetary prizes for solutions to problems of interest to him and he is offering a prize of \$250 for a problem he explains in his article. Although Professor Erdos is unusually non-materialistic be warned that there are easier ways of earning money, as many professional mathematicians would attest.

There is a perennial problem to those of us involved in Parabola. Although we can obtain support from large commercial firms whose primary interest is not mathematics and articles from eminent mathematicians we get little direct input from high school staff. Of course, one doesn't have to be a Paul Erdos or a problem solving wizard to contribute something to Parabola. Therefore I'm appealing to high school teachers to contact us about articles or ideas which, they feel, might help to improve our magazine.