Preface

This and the next volume of the *Journal of Approximation Theory* are dedicated to Professor Joseph Leonard Walsh on his 75th birthday. The Journal joins his many students, colleagues and friends in wishing him many years of good health and happiness. We all look forward to new contributions by this eminent mathematician who has done so much in molding the present shape of Approximation Theory.

During October 26–30, 1970, the International Conference on Approximation Theory, Related Topics and Their Applications was held at the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, honoring Professor Walsh on his anniversary. It included formal lectures reporting on recent developments and allowed also for informal discussions and exchange of ideas. The proceedings of this conference as well as some other articles dedicated to Professor Walsh comprise the present and the next volume of the Journal.

The conference was organized by the Department of Mathematics of the University of Maryland and was sponsored by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research and by the University. The Invitational Committee consisted of Professors R. C. Buck, P. J. Davis, J. L. Doob, D. V. Widder and M. Zedek (Chairman). The conference included also various social activities and, in particular, a banquet in honor of Professor Walsh on October 27.

I would like to thank Professor Zedek for his extreme care and devotion in the planning, preparation and direction of the conference. His many efforts resulted in a highly successful scientific experience and earned him the gratitude of all participants.

Thanks are also due to the Department of Mathematics of the University of Maryland and, in particular, to its Chairman Professor J. K. Goldhaber, to the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, to the members of the Invitational Committee and to Professors S. L. Gulick, W. E. Kirwan and W. J. Schneider who, together with Professors Goldhaber and Zedek, formed the Arrangements Committee.

Last but not least, my thanks go to Academic Press for their kind interest in publishing the proceedings of this conference in the Journal of Approximation Theory.

I hope that these proceedings will succeed in disseminating recent developments and in stimulating new ones.

<div align="right">OVED SHISHA</div>

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