

Preface

During one of his regular visits to Aachen, Gordon Petersen, a fellow former graduate student of Professor George Lorentz at the University of Toronto, and I decided that we should try to honor our former teacher, one of the world's renowned analysts, on the occasion of his sixty-fifth birthday. In accordance with the tradition set up with the anniversary volumes dedicated to the late Professor J. L. Walsh on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday and to Professor I. J. Schoenberg on his seventieth birthday, I thought that the *Journal of Approximation Theory* would be ideally suited for this purpose. Particularly as Professor Lorentz has been a fellow associate editor of the Journal since its start in 1968.

I would like to thank Professor Oved Shisha, the editor and founder of this *Journal*, for putting one volume (namely, the present Volume 13, 1975), consisting of four issues, at our disposal for this purpose and for his tireless efforts on behalf of this project. A first call for invited papers was sent out in April 1973. Professor Petersen has written the article on Professor Lorentz's life. This is followed by a list of Lorentz's doctoral students and a list of his publications. The following article on Lorentz's contribution to mathematics was originally intended to be a basis for an appraisal of his work by Petersen and myself. Not being able to complete this appraisal due to the great distance between the authors and to lack of time, it was decided to publish Lorentz's original notes with minimum editorial change.

His contributions range widely and lie mainly in three fields of mathematics, namely, Approximation Theory, Functional Analysis, and Summability Theory. The papers in Functional Analysis in this volume were kindly solicited and looked after by Professor W. A. J. Luxemburg of the California Institute of Technology; those on Summability, by Professor Karl Zeller, Tübingen, another fellow student of Lorentz, as well as by Gordon Petersen. The manuscripts in the wide area of Approximation Theory, a field in which the impetus of Lorentz's work has perhaps been greatest, making up the majority of the papers in this anniversary volume, were dealt with by me.

The importance of Professor Lorentz's work on Approximation and Functional Spaces was again revealed at the Conference on Linear Operators and Approximation held March 30 through April 6, 1974 at the Oberwolfach Mathematical Research Institute, Black Forest, and attended by 54 specialists from 16 nations. Professor Lorentz was not only a very active participant

himself, but also, as many remarked, almost a quarter of the 43 lecturers either based their results on or quoted previous work of Lorentz.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the authors of the present volume for their contribution to and cooperation in this project. I would also like to thank the referees for checking over the manuscripts, and Josef Junggeburth for helping us prepare the manuscripts for print.

Finally I would like to wish my teacher and friend Professor Lorentz, surely also in the name of all the contributors to this volume and all other friends, a very happy birthday with many more to come. We wish him continued good health and joy, crowned with his usual mathematical productivity.

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