

ENGLISH EXPERIENCES IN TEACHING THE CALCULUS TO TRADE SCHOOL STUDENTS

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(Abstract)

Of the two sides of mathematics, the logical and the utilitarian, the academic education, having in view cultural aims, emphasizes the first. However, modern process of industry and mechanical arts is in a large measure due to successful applications of mathematics. This makes it necessary that for strictly practical purposes the methods and concrete results of this science should be put within reach of students of the trade schools. But these students have neither the time nor the intellectual maturity to go into the philosophical foundations or to follow the logical structure of mathematics. Hence the movement, lead in England by Prof. Perry, to teach mathematics, including the calculus, in a concrete, experimental way, was introduced. The results of such attempts seem to be encouraging. The paper contains some illustrations of this method of teaching the calculus.