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$$\bar{x} = \frac{(n+2)(6n+13)(6n+15)(6n+17)}{(n+3)(6n+20)(6n+22)(6n+24)} a = \frac{(n+2)(2n+5)(6n+13)(6n+17)}{(n+3)(2n+8)(6n+20)(6n+22)} a.$$

Let $m=8$, then $mn+2m+1=8n+17$, $mn+3m+2=8n+26$ and

$$\bar{x} = \frac{(n+2)(8n+17)(8n+19)(8n+21)(8n+23)}{(n+3)(8n+26)(8n+28)(8n+30)(8n+32)} a, \text{ and so on for any value of } m.$$

The centroid is on the axis of symmetry. $\therefore \bar{y}=0$.

If m be a positive fraction the centroid will be the origin and $\bar{x}=0$, $\bar{y}=0$.

This follows from the fact that there are as many loops, (equal) arranged about the centre as the denominator of the fraction represented by m has integers in it. Hence, if $m=\frac{q}{p}$, then there are p equal loops around the centre.

A general rule is as follows:

When m is a positive odd integer

$$\bar{x} = \frac{n+2}{n+3} \left[\frac{(mn+2m+1)(mn+2m+3)(mn+2m+5)\dots}{(mn+3m+1)(mn+3m+3)(mn+3m+5)\dots} \right] a, \text{ to } \frac{m+1}{2} \text{ factors inside the brackets.}$$

When m is a positive even integer

$$\bar{x} = \frac{n+2}{n+3} \left[\frac{(mn+2m+1)(mn+2m+3)(mn+2m+5)\dots}{(mn+3m+2)(mn+3m+4)(mn+3m+6)\dots} \right] a, \text{ to } \frac{m}{2} \text{ factors inside the brackets. In either case } \bar{y}=0,$$

ARITHMETIC.

Conducted by B. F. FINKEL, Kidder, Missouri. All contributions to this department should be sent to him.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

9. Proposed by O. S. KIBLER, Superintendent of Schools, West Middleburgh, Logan County, Ohio.

Four logs of uniform thickness whose diameters are each four feet, lie side by side and touch each other. In the crevices of these logs lie three logs 3 feet in diameter, and in the crevices of the three logs lie two logs whose diameters are 2 feet. What must be the diameter of a log to lie on the top of the pile and touch the two logs and the middle one of the three logs?

Solution by Professor G. B. M. ZERR, A. M., Principal of High School, Staunton, Virginia; I. L. BEVERAGE, Monterey, Virginia; and the Proposer.

Let A, B, C, D, E, F, G , be centres of the logs as seen in the figure.

Now $CD = AB = ab = EG$.

$$\therefore Ed = \frac{1}{2} EG = 2.$$

$$EF^2 - 4 = dF^2, \quad ED^2 - 4 = dD^2,$$

$$\sqrt{EF^2 - 4} + \sqrt{6\frac{1}{4} - 4} = DF.$$

$$EF = Ef + fF, \quad DF = 1\frac{1}{2} + fF,$$

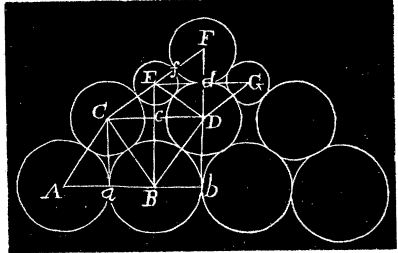
$$\sqrt{fF^2 + 2fF - 3} + \sqrt{2\frac{1}{4}} = 1\frac{1}{2} + fF,$$

$$\sqrt{fF^2 + 2fF - 3} = fF,$$

$$fF^2 + 2fF - 3 = fF^2,$$

$$fF = 1\frac{1}{2}.$$

\therefore the diameter required = 3 feet.



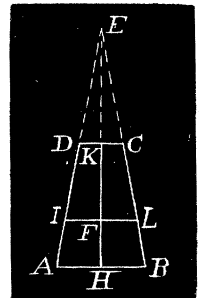
This problem was also solved by A. L. FOOTE, JOHN T. FAIRCHILD, J. A. CALDERHEAD, H. C. WHITAKER, H. W. HOLYCROSS, P. S. BERG, CHARLES E. MYERS, and C. D. STILLSON.

10. Proposed by MISS LECTA MILLER, B. L., Professor of Natural Science and Art, Kidder Institute, Kidder, Missouri.

A carpenter is obliged to cut a board, that is in the form of a trapezoid, crosswise into two equivalent parts. The board is 12ft. long, 2 ft. wide at one end, and one foot wide at the other. How far from the narrow end must he cut?

Solution by B. F. FINKEL, Professor of Mathematics, Kidder Institute, Kidder, Missouri.

1. Let $ABCD$ be the board.
2. $AB = 2$ feet = b , the width of the large end,
3. $DC = 1$ foot = c , the width of the small end, and
4. $HK = 12$ feet = a , the length of the board.
5. Produce HK, AD , and BC till they meet in E . Then by similar triangles,
6. $ABE : EIL : EDC :: AB^2 : LI^2 : DC^2$. But
7. $EIL = EDC + \frac{1}{2}(ABCD) = \frac{1}{2}(2 EDC + ABCD) = \frac{1}{2}(EDC + EDC + ABCD) = \frac{1}{2}(EDC + EAB)$.
8. $\therefore IL^2 = \frac{1}{2}(AB^2 + DC^2) = \frac{1}{2}(b^2 + c^2)$.
9. $\therefore IL = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(b^2 + c^2)} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(2^2 + 1^2)} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{10}$ ft., the dividing line.
10. Area of $ABCD = \frac{1}{2}(AB + CD) \times KH = \frac{1}{2}(b + c)a = 18$ sq. ft.
11. \therefore Area of $ABIL = \frac{1}{2}ABCD = \frac{1}{4}(b + c)a = 9$ sq. ft.
12. But area of $DCIL = \frac{1}{2}(DC + IL) \times KF$
 $= \frac{1}{2}[c + \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(b^2 + c^2)}] \times KF = \frac{1}{2}(2 + \sqrt{10}) \times KF$.
13. $\therefore \frac{1}{2}(c + \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(b^2 + c^2)}) \times KF = \frac{1}{4}(b + c)a$, whence
 $\frac{1}{2}(b + c)a$
14. $KF = \frac{\frac{1}{4}(b + c)a}{[c + \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(b^2 + c^2)}]} = \frac{18}{\frac{1}{2}(2 + \sqrt{10})} = \frac{36}{2 + \sqrt{10}}$
 $6.973666 + \text{feet.}$



III. \therefore He must saw it in two at 6.973666 + feet from the narrow end.

This problem was also solved by G. B. M. Zerr, P. S. Berg, Charles E. Myers, J. A. Calderhead, A. L. Foote, H. C. Whitaker, H. W. Holycross, H. M. Cash and F. A. Swanger.

11. Proposed by L. B. HAYWARD, Superintendent of Schools, Bingham, Ohio.

What length of rope will be required to draw water from a well, it being 38