

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

BALTIMORE-18, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

December 28, 1944

Professor G. Wataghin
Departamento de Fisica da
Faculdade de Filosofia
Av. Brig. Luiz Antonio, 78A
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Dear Wataghin:

Many thanks for your letter of December 6. I am very happy that my appointment is now official, and I am looking forward with the greatest interest to my visit to Sao Paulo and to my contacts with your Faculty. It is my earnest hope that I may be useful to your advanced students in Mathematics.

There are many questions in my mind. In what language will I hold my conferences? What form should these conferences take? Should they take the form of a seminar course, or should they be informal conferences with individual students, or both? These questions can be answered only when I am in Sao Paulo. Meanwhile, if you believe that a letter from you can still reach me, I should appreciate any information you can give me either about these questions or about the mathematics students.

I intend to travel by air (together with my wife and daughter), and to get to Sao Paulo about the middle of February. However, in these abnormal times one cannot be sure about dates. Such formalities as passports, visas and priorities for air transportation take time. If there is any delay, you may be sure that it was caused by circumstances beyond my control. However, I am hopeful since President Bowman of this University has considerable influence in our State Department and he has promised to speed up things for me there.

I understand that Professor Andre' Weil is now in New Orleans, where he is waiting for his boat to Brazil.

Looking forward to renewing our old acquaintance, and with best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Oscar Zariski

Oscar Zariski

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