

**100 Years Ago This Month in The American Mathematical Monthly**  
**Edited by Vadim Ponomarenko**

M. PAUL PAINLEVÉ, formerly professor of mathematics at the University of Paris and professor of mechanics at the Paris Polytechnic School, was chosen premier of the French Republic and served in that capacity until the recent overthrow of the French cabinet. While he was premier, the New York Evening Post made the following comment: “France has three of her most important posts in government and army filled by men especially renowned in mathematical proficiency. The Premier, M. PAINLEVÉ, knew enough at eleven and a half to have entitled him to his bachelor’s degree, and later he attracted the attention of the mathematicians of Paris and was appointed to the professorships mentioned above. The commander-in-chief of the army, General PÉTAIN, now directing the gigantic struggle of the French armies, is a fine mathematician. And there is M. LOUCHEUR, the new minister of armaments, who gained especial mathematical distinction while a student at the Ecole Polytechnique.

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