

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

The *Teachers College Record*, May, 1917, contains a very interesting and important discussion of “Mathematics in the training for citizenship,” by Professor DAVID EUGENE SMITH. This is an address that was delivered before the faculty of Teachers College, March 8, 1917. Professor Smith presents six very important reasons for the study of mathematics. These stated briefly are: (1) Mathematics is one of the small group of subjects that are linked up with a large number of branches of human knowledge; (2) it possesses a high value as a mental discipline; (3) it enables every one to experience the “power of thought”; (4) mathematics is one of the eternal verities; (5) it makes one conscious of his position in the universe around him; (6) its study gives humanity a religious sense that cannot be fully developed without it.

Excerpted from “Notes and News” **24** (1917) 305-308.