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Remarks on N. Oresme's Definition of Curvitas.

In a paper published in 1952, J. L. Coolidge points out that "the first writer to give a hint of the definition of curvature was the fourteenth century writer Nicolas Oresme". Coolidge also comments: "Oresme conceived the curvature of a circle as inversely proportional to the radius; how did he find this out?" This question is the starting point of our investigation. It is established that the *Tractatus de configurationibus qualitatum et motuum* has been written by Oresme sometime between 1351 and 1355. We study N. Oresme's original work in the scholarly environment of his time. (Received June 06, 2014)