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Michael J. Barany* (michael@mbarany.com). *Internationalize first, ask questions later: Headlong diplomacy and American mathematical hegemony, 1920-1950.*

In 1920, American mathematicians first successfully bid to host an International Congress of Mathematicians in the United States, planned for 1924. They ultimately succeeded in hosting such a meeting on their third attempt, in 1950 in Cambridge, MA. Historians of American and international mathematics, most notably Karen Parshall, have given considerable recent attention to this period as a turning point for the international mathematical community and Americans' place within it. While it is tempting to emphasize Americans' noble ambitions and organizational triumphs in this period, their ignorance and blunders could be just as decisive for the particular kind of internationalism that emerged. Looking to international archives beyond the core institutional and personal sources typically used to understand these developments offers a striking view of these latter aspects of American internationalism. My presentation will explore Americans' headlong diplomacy, represented especially by the dramatic miscalculations of Marshall Stone, and its contexts and consequences for a globalizing discipline. (Received September 21, 2018)