



Turbulent Times in Mathematics: The Life of J.C. Fields and the History of the Fields Medal

By Elaine McKinnon Riehm, Frances Hoffman

American Mathematical Society. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, *Turbulent Times in Mathematics: The Life of J.C. Fields and the History of the Fields Medal*, Elaine McKinnon Riehm, Frances Hoffman, Despite the renown of the Fields Medals, J. C. Fields has been until now a rather obscure figure, and recovering details about his professional activities and personal life was not at all a simple task. This work is a triumph of persistence with far-flung archival and documentary sources, and provides a rich non-mathematical portrait of the man in all aspects of his life and career. Highly readable and replete with period detail, the book sheds useful light on the mathematical and scientific world of Fields' time, and is sure to remain the definitive biographical study. --Tom Archibald, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada Drawing on a wide array of archival sources, Riehm and Hoffman provide a vivid account of Fields' life and his part in the founding of the highest award in mathematics. Filled with intriguing detail--from a childhood on the shores of Lake Ontario, through the mathematics seminars of late 19th century Berlin, to the post-WW1 years of the fragmented international mathematical community--it is a richly textured story engagingly...

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