Meeting: 1002, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, SS 3A, Special Session on The History of Mathematics

1002-01-19 **Francine F. Abeles*** (fabeles@kean.edu), Kean University, Union, NJ 07083. *An Episode in the Early Development of Automated Deduction. Lewis Carroll's Symbolic Logic.* Preliminary report.

In the two parts of Symbolic Logic, the second part first published in 1977, Charles L. Dodgson (Lewis Carroll, 1832-1898) developed a formal logic in which he set down intuitively valid formal rules for making inferences. The elimination problem: determining the maximum amount of information that can be obtained from a given set of propositions was the central problem of the logic of classes. The methods he invented to mechanize reasoning in the logic of classes foreshadowed modern concepts and techniques in automated reasoning. (Received June 22, 2004)