ZURICH GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM

Tuesdays, 5:15 pm
Hermann Weyl Zimmer, ETH Zentrum
in alternation with the
Zurich Colloquium in Mathematics

Speaker: **Prof. Ernst Specker**

Title: **The wager of Polya and Weyl**

Date: Tuesday, January 25th

The wager, made in 1918, is about the opinion of future mathematicians concerning the following sentences:

(1) Every bounded set of real numbers has a precise upper limit.

(2) Every infinite set of real numbers has a countable subset.

According to Weyl, the notions of real number, set, countable are completely vague and it is therefore impossible to ask for the truth or falsehood of these sentences.

What is the opinion of the audience at the beginning, at the end of the talk?

P.S.: The complete text of the wager is in the Hermann Weyl Zimmer.

`http://www.math.ethz.ch/graduate/colloquium`

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