LEONARDO FIBONACCI

terminate analysis involving equations of the second degree such as $x^2 + 5 = y^2$, $x^2 - 5 = z^2$. This work has marked him as the outstanding mathematician between Diophantus and Fermat in this field.

Two or three works of Leonardo that are known are the <u>Flos</u> [1, Vol. II, p. 227] (blossom or flower), which contains the last two problems of the tournament; the first problem is found in the <u>Liber Quadratorum</u>, and a <u>Letter to</u> <u>Magister Theodoris</u> [1, Vol. II, p. 247], philosopher to Frederick II, relating to indeterminate analysis and to geometry. The last three works show clearly the genius and brilliance of Leonardo as a mathematician and were beyond the abilities of most contemporary scholars.

The works of Leonardo Fibonacci are available in some universities in the United States through B. Boncompagni, <u>Scritte di Leonardo Pisano</u>, Rome, (1857-1862) [1]. The first volume contains the <u>Liber Abbaci</u> and the second volume contains <u>Patricia Geometriae</u>, the <u>Flos</u>, <u>Letter to Magestrum Theo-</u> <u>dorum</u>, and <u>Liber Quadratorum</u>. A treatment of square numbers composed by Leonardo and addressed to the Emperor Frederick II seems to have been lost.

REFERENCE

1. Boncompagni, Baldassarre, Scritti di Leonardo Pisano; Roma, 1857; 2 vols.

REFERENCES FROM PAGE 7

- 1. A. Erdélyi, et al., "Higher Transcendental Functions," vol. 2, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1953.
- 2. A. F. Horadam, "A Generalized Fibonacci Sequence," Amer. Math. Monthly 68 (1961), pp. 455-459.
- 3. E. Lucas, "Théorie Des Fonctions Numérique Simplement Périodiques," Amer. J. Math. 1 (1878), pp. 184-240.
- 4. I. Nivin and H. S. Zuckerman, <u>An Introduction to the Theory of Numbers</u>, Wiley, New York, 1960.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

1963