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Siegmund-Schultze, Reinhard

The institute Henri Poincaré and mathematics in France between the wars.

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The author describes the foundation and the first years of the Institute Henri Poincaré as an example of the contribution of the Rockefeller philanthropies to help Europe—in this particular case France—to overcome the organizational (financial) difficulties of the aftermath of World War I in sciences. The activities of and around the IHP are documented, in general, with respect to the mathematical and political situation in France and, in concrete, with respect to the (successful) establishment of stochastics as a modern mathematical discipline.

Reinhard Kahle (Lisbon)

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