Oral communication (Recreational Mathematics)

The many faces of the celebrated couple in the street

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Abstract

Lillian Rosanoff Lieber, and her husband Hugh Gray Lieber, published several books from the 1930s up to the 1960s on popular mathematics. Their style was unique: they did not shy away from mathematical hard spots, which they explained and connected with art and culture.

Lillian, born in Russia in the 19th century, was one of the first women in the academic realm in the USA.

It is somewhat a mystery that their works have almost been forgotten.

We will survey their lives and work, and share some ideas about the reason behind the disappearance of the Liebers from the mainstream sources in Recreational Mathematics.

References

[1] L.R. Lieber: *Non-Euclidean Geometry; Or, Three Moons in Mathesis.* Academy Press (1931)

[2] L.R. Lieber: *Galois and the Theory of Groups: a Bright Star in Mathesis.* The Science Press Printing Company (1941)

[3] D.L. Roberts: *Republic of Numbers: Unexpected Stories of Mathematical Americans through History.* Johns Hopkins University Press (2019)