

Re: Cantor's circular "proof" that evens = integers

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On May 8, 12:26 am, george <gree...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On May 6, 5:04 am, Phil <toob-head...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Well, I am pointing out that that is true ONLY when that infinite set is combined with the proper axioms.

It is NOT POSSIBLE for it NOT to be so combined.
"that infinite set" DOES NOT HAVE *ANY* EXISTENCE
apart from these axioms! THAT infinite set was PRODUCED BY
the axiom of infinity!

That position brings you perilously close to that of NAFL, which basically asserts that truth for formal propositions is always with respect to axioms, i.e., with respect to axiomatic theories. The next step you need to take is to ask what brings axioms (theories) into "existence"? NAFL takes the stand that it is the human mind. So infinite sets (temporarily) exist for a particular human mind if and only if that human (temporarily) has a theory in mind that proves the existence of infinite sets. But what if the theory in question neither proves nor disproves the existence of infinite sets? Then infinite sets can neither exist nor not-exist for that mind. Examining this angle further leads to the conclusion that NAFL will not permit theories that prove the existence of infinite sets, i.e., the theory of hereditarily finite sets must disprove the existence of infinite sets.

Classically the position you take may not be tenable. Existence of infinite sets will have to be "prior" to axioms. I doubt if your colleagues in this NG will agree with your stand.

I have been very busy with both professional and personal stuff for the last 2-3 weeks. I will respond to your FOL vs NAFL comments (as well as those of Jan Burse) when I can free up some time. I have not been following this thread or others in sci.logic for a while now, just butted in upon seeing that comment of yours.

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Regards, RS

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