

# Today in Math History...

**-13 September 1873**

**Constantin Caratheodory born.** He worked on the calculus of variations and the theory of real functions. He is the only modern Greek mathematician *“who does not suffer by comparison with the famous names of Greek antiquity.”*



*The calculus of variations is a branch of mathematics that is a sort of generalization of calculus. Calculus of variations seeks to find the path, curve, surface, etc., for which a given function has a stationary value (which, in physical problems, is usually a minimum or maximum).*