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**PROBLEM 2358.** In triangle ABC, let the mid-points of BC, CA, AB be L, M, N respectively, and let the feet of the altitudes from A, B, C be D, E, F, respectively. Let X be the intersection of LE and MD, let Y be the intersection of MF and NE, and let Z be the intersection of ND and LF. Show that X, Y, Z are collinear.

**SOLUTION.** Let  $ND \cap EL = P$ ,  $MF \cap EL = Q$  and  $MF \cap ND = R$ . Using Menelaus's theorem on the triangle PQR with the points  $\{F, Z, L\}$ ,  $\{M, D, X\}$  and  $\{E, N, Y\}$  respectively we have

$$\frac{QF}{FR} \frac{RZ}{ZP} \frac{PL}{LQ} = 1, \quad \frac{QM}{MR} \frac{RD}{DP} \frac{PX}{XQ} = 1, \quad \frac{QY}{YR} \frac{RN}{NP} \frac{PE}{EQ} = 1.$$

We multiply this three equalities and get

$$\frac{QF}{FR} \frac{RZ}{ZP} \frac{PL}{LQ} \frac{QM}{MR} \frac{RD}{DP} \frac{PX}{XQ} \frac{QY}{YR} \frac{RN}{NP} \frac{PE}{EQ} = 1. \quad (1)$$

The points N, F, D, L, E, M lie on the Euler's circle for triangle ABC (see "Geometry revisited", H. Coxeter, S. Greitzer – theorem 1.81). Hence

$$QE \cdot QL = QM \cdot QF; \quad RN \cdot RD = RF \cdot RM; \quad PL \cdot PE = PD \cdot PN.$$

From (1) it follows that

$$\frac{RZ}{ZP} \frac{PX}{XQ} \frac{QY}{YR} = 1.$$

Using again Menelaus's theorem we prove that X, Y and Z are collinear.

\*\*\*This problem is known Paskal's theorem. See "Geometry revisited", H. Coxeter, S. Greitzer – theorem 3.81.\*\*\*

