

subject being 'The Attitude of the State towards Scientific Research,' and the speakers being Professor H. F. Osborn, Dr. L. O. Howard, Professor W. B. Clark, Dr. B. T. Galloway and Professor William T. Sedgwick.

The business transacted by the Society included an appropriation of \$50 toward the support of the university table at the Naples Zoological Station, and \$50 to support a table at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Holl. It was also voted that a committee of five be appointed by the incoming executive committee to select appointments to the university table at Naples, and to raise, if possible, additional funds for its support. A resolution was passed protesting against the duty on wax and other models intended for scientific research in educational institutions.

The most important business transacted by the Society was the consideration of its relations to the Naturalists meeting simultaneously at Chicago. The action taken was as follows: (1) Section 1, of Article IV, which limited the territory for holding meetings, was stricken out of the Constitution and was transferred to the By-Laws. (2) This By-Law was temporarily set aside for the purpose of providing for the meeting of the Society in Chicago in 1901. (3) The Executive Committee was empowered to confer with those interested in the formation of a Western Branch of the Society.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

President, Wm. T. Sedgwick; *Vice-Presidents*, L. O. Howard, L. M. Underwood, J. Walter Fewkes; *Secretary*, A. D. Mead; *Treasurer*, M. M. Metcalf; *Executive Committee from Society at Large*, G. H. Parker, J. McK. Cattell.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

A MEETING of the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was held at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, at one o'clock on December 28th, with the president of the Association, Professor R. S. Woodward, in the chair. Professor C. S. Minot, the president-elect, was also in attendance.

The permanent secretary, Dr. L. O. Howard,

made a report on the affairs of the Association, including the preparations for the meeting next August at Denver. Professor L. G. Carpenter has been in charge of the local arrangements, and has visited the officers of the Association and the leading scientific centers of the Eastern States in the interest of the meeting.

Local committees were appointed in a large number of places throughout the country to forward the interests of the Association in different regions.

A committee was appointed to inquire whether universities and other scientific institutions would set aside a week during the winter for the meetings of scientific and learned societies.

Miss Watson presented her resignation as assistant secretary of the Association, and was elected a life member in recognition of her long and efficient services.

247 new members were elected, which makes the total membership of the Association over 2,000.

The contract made by the Association with The Macmillan Company was presented. It carries out the arrangements made at the New York meeting, in accordance with which SCIENCE is sent free of charge to all members of the Association.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

WE expect to publish in early issues accounts of the scientific proceedings of the societies that met during Christmas week. In the meanwhile it may be stated that Professor W. T. Sedgwick, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been elected president of the American Society of Naturalists; Professor J. S. Kingsley, of Tufts College, president of the American Morphological Society; Professor W. H. Welch, of the Johns Hopkins University, president of the American Society of Bacteriologists; Dr. Erwin F. Smith, U. S. Department of Agriculture, president of the Society of Plant Morphology and Physiology; Dr. Frank Russell, of Harvard University, president of the Folklore Society; Professor Josiah Royce, of Harvard University, president of the American Psychological Association; Professor E. H. Moore, of the University of Chicago, president of the