

cause of the large membership of the House it is clear that much of its work must be done through committees, just as the work of Congress and of our State legislatures is accomplished. Yet we must have ample provision for free debate upon important topics before they are finally passed upon. We are gratified to learn that the new Business Committee which will arrange a program for the next meeting of the House already has under consideration a plan to bring out full discussion in such a way as to ensure no interference with the decisiveness of final action. With this provided for the House of Delegates will be fully entitled to the respect, confidence and support of all American physicians.—*American Medicine*.

THE House of Delegates.—This new legislative body of the American Medical Association gave ample evidence that it can dispatch work much more efficiently than was possible in the general session heretofore. It contained many representative men, who showed a willingness to devote themselves to its business at no little sacrifice to themselves. It had to struggle against some disadvantages, due to the newness of the work and to the fact that an untimely fire at Saratoga drove it from its original quarters. The urbanity of President Wyeth and his rather low articulation were, perhaps, not conducive to a quick dispatch of business, but after the first day the progress made was more expeditious. This first experience has proved several things. The sessions should, if possible, be held at times when the sections for scientific work are not in session. Many men were kept from reading papers because they were conscientiously attending the House of Delegates. Others remained away from the House, because the sections were more interesting. If this is allowed to continue, the House will soon be attended by few others than the political wire-pullers who have at times dominated the affairs of the Association to its disadvantage. The House would do better to meet early in the morning or in the evening during the time devoted to entertainments than during the time assigned for section work. It is probable

that one of the vice-presidents or chairmen elected by itself should be selected to occupy the chair in most cases, so that the President might be free for social and scientific duties. The President of the Association is usually elected for scientific services rendered to the profession and the public, and is not necessarily a good parliamentarian. The House of Delegates should be empowered to select a man with a strong voice, a strong backbone and a knowledge of parliamentary law, combined with absolute impartiality to preside over its deliberations. This would insure sessions beginning at the exact minute agreed upon and would dispatch business in a quick, just and efficient way. On the whole the House of Delegates was, and promises to continue to be, a success.—*Philadelphia Medical Journal*.

THE ELIZABETH THOMPSON SCIENCE
FUND.

ON June 9, 1902, the twenty-seventh meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Elizabeth Thompson Science Fund was held at the Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.

Messrs. Bowditch, Pickering and Minot were present.

The following officers were elected:

President, Henry P. Bowditch; *Treasurer*, Charles S. Rackemann; *Secretary*, Charles S. Minot.

The report of the Treasurer, ending May 23, 1902, was read and accepted. It shows a balance of income on hand of \$2,586.01.

It was voted to consider as closed the records of the following Grants:

- 33. Julien Fraipont.
- 81. John Milne.
- 82. W. O. Atwater.
- 86. H. H. Field.
- 87. S. H. Scudder.
- 88. P. Bachmetjew.
- 89. E. S. Faust.
- 92. E. W. Scripture.
- 95. F. T. Lewis.

The Secretary reported that Grant No. 95, of \$125, had been made to Dr. F. T. Lewis, Cambridge, Mass., for investigation of the development of the vena cava inferior, being agreed to by correspondence, and that the work had been completed and published.

The Trustees greatly regretted to be obliged to decline forty-five applications, many of which were highly deserving of aid.

It was voted to make the following new Grants:

96. \$150, to Professor H. E. Crampton, Columbia University, New York, for experiments on variation and selection in Lepidoptera.

97. \$100, to Dr. F. W. Bancroft, University of California, Berkeley, Cal., for experiments on the inheritance of acquired characters.

98. \$125, to Dr. J. Weinzirl, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N. Mex., for investigation of the relation of climate to the cure of tuberculosis, it being agreed that if the work justifies it the same amount will be granted next year.

99. \$300, to Professor H. S. Grindley, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill., for investigation of the proteids of flesh.

100. \$300, to Dr. H. H. Field, Zürich, Switzerland, to aid the work of the concilium bibliographicum.

101. \$250, to Professor T. A. Jaggar, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., for experiments in dynamical geology, provided the Secretary receives the necessary assurance that the work can be undertaken with reasonable promptitude.

102. \$50, to Dr. E. O. Jordan, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., for the study of the biometrics of *Anopheles*.

103. \$300, to Dr. E. Anding, München, Bavaria, to assist the publication of his work 'Ueber die Bewegung der Sonne durch den Weltraum,' but the grant is conditional upon other means being also secured by the author sufficient to accomplish the publication.

104. \$300, to Professor W. P. Bradley, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., for investigations on matter in the critical state.

105. \$300, to Professor Hugo Kronecker, Bern, Switzerland, for assistance in preparing his physiological researches for publication.

106. \$300, to Professor W. Valentiner, Grossh. Sternwarte, Heidelberg, Germany, to continue the work of Grant No. 93 (Observations on variable stars).

Signed,

CHARLES S. MINOT,
Secretary.

THE PITTSBURGH MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

THE fifty-first annual meeting of the American Association, held this week at Pittsburgh,

opened auspiciously, three hundred and fifteen members being registered on Monday morning. A full report of the meeting will be given in the issue of SCIENCE for next week; here it can only be said that at the beginning of the week it was evident that both the scientific programs and the social arrangements were excellent in all respects. This may be illustrated by the statement that sixty-nine papers were entered to be read before the American Chemical Society and the Section of Chemistry, and that the local committee provided forty-two excursions. The retiring president, Dr. Minot, gave the admirable address that is printed above. The vice-presidential addresses of Professor Jacobi and Dr. Galloway are also printed in this issue of SCIENCE, and those by Professor MacMahon, Professor Brace, Professor Van Hise, President Jordan, Dr. Fewkes and Mr. Hyde will follow. Full reports of the meetings of the sections and of the affiliated societies will be given in early issues of this journal.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has elected M. Amagat a member of the section of physics in succession to M. Cornu.

THE Academy of Sciences of Vienna has elected Lord Rayleigh a corresponding member.

THE list of coronation honors in great Britain closes with the announcement that King Edward has instituted a new Order of Merit to be bestowed for well-earned distinction in any profession, foreigners to be included as honorary members. The original members of the order include Lord Kelvin, Lord Lister, Lord Rayleigh and Sir William Huggins. Lord Lister and Lord Kelvin have also been made privy councillors; knighthood has been conferred on Dr. Oliver Lodge, and Professor William Ramsay has been made Knight Companion of the Order of the Bath.

THE honorary Doctorate of Laws was conferred upon Director W. W. Campbell, of the Lick Observatory, by the University of Wisconsin on July 19.

YALE UNIVERSITY has conferred its Doctorate of Laws on President Nicholas Murray But-