

tricity with Professors Nichols and Shearer, of Cornell, and with Professor Esterline, of Purdue, and he had published a number of papers on electrical subjects. He was a member of the honor fraternity, Sigma Xi.

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

A REGULAR meeting of the board of regents of the Smithsonian Institution was held on December 3, 1907, at ten o'clock, at the institution, the chancellor, Chief Justice Fuller, presiding, and the following regents being present: Vice-president Charles W. Fairbanks, Senator Shelby M. Cullom, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Senator Augustus O. Bacon, Representative John Dalzell, Representative James R. Mann, Representative William M. Howard, Dr. Andrew D. White, the Hon. John B. Henderson, and the secretary of the institution, Dr. Charles D. Walcott.

The secretary presented his report for the year ending June 30, 1907, to the board, which was accepted. Statements were received from the executive and permanent committees. The secretary presented a statement of the affairs of the institution since the close of the fiscal year. Considerable attention was given to the National Gallery of Art, and a resolution was adopted urging congress to make an appropriation for adapting the large hall of the Smithsonian building to the purposes of a gallery of art. A resolution was also adopted tendering the thanks of the regents to William T. Evans for the gift of his valuable collections of paintings by American artists, and to the trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art for their courtesy in providing temporarily for the exhibition of this collection.

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS OF THE MATHEMATICAL AND THE NATURAL SCIENCES

THE second annual meeting of the American Federation of Teachers of the Mathematical and the Natural Sciences will be held in Chicago on January 1, 1908, at 2 P.M., in room 20 of the Kent Chemical Laboratory, University of Chicago. The purpose of the federation is a more unified and concentrated

effort on the part of its members to better the teaching of mathematics and of the natural sciences. The membership of the federation consists entirely of associations, each member being represented by delegates at the meetings. At the last meeting, a tentative organization was formed by the following associations: The Association of Teachers of Mathematics of the Middle States and Maryland; The New York State Science Teachers Association; The Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers; The Association of Teachers of Mathematics of New England; The Physics Teachers Association of Washington City; The Missouri Society of Teachers of Mathematics and Science; The New Jersey State Science Teachers Association.

Since the last meeting, the following associations have signified their intention of being represented at the coming meeting in Chicago: The Michigan Schoolmasters Club; The New England Association of Chemistry Teachers; The New York Physics Club; The Indiana Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers; The Association of Ohio Teachers of Mathematics and Science. At this meeting on January 1, the final form of the organization will be decided. All organizations whose leading purpose is the betterment of the teaching either of mathematics or of the natural sciences are invited to send delegates to this meeting and thus to take part in the organization of the federation. By joining this body, an association will lose in no way its individuality or its right to work in its own field in its own way; but it will gain an official means of keeping in touch with the work of the other associations, and will receive from the federation suggestions as to the ways in which all the associations may work together on their common problems.

C. R. MANN,

Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE CONVOCATION WEEK MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science and the national scientific societies named below will meet at the Uni-