The total number of rats belonging to the third generation born in captivity is not yet large. There are, however, six litters altogether, each having a different parentage. Within these six litters I have found four pure albino rats (white coat and pink eyes) among only brown-coated brothers and sisters. The distribution of these albino mutants within the litters is as follows:

(1) 7 brown and no albinos, born March 15, 1912.
(2) 6 brown and no albinos, born March —, 1912.
(3) 4 brown and 3 albinos, born April 17, 1912.
(4) 4 brown and 1 albino, born April 17, 1912.
(5) 12 brown and no albinos, born April 30, 1912.
(6) 5 brown and no albinos, born May 4, 1912. This litter was found dead; all had pigmented eyes.

Thus the number of albino mutants in proportion to the brown-coated brothers and sisters is not large, though it may increase in subsequent generations. Although I have been anticipating that such albino mutants might occur sometime, nevertheless it was a great surpise to obtain them within so few generations.

So far as I am aware, this is the first instance in which the albino mutants have been obtained from the common Norway rats under laboratory conditions and I thought the event of sufficient interest to justify this note.

S. Hatai

The Wistar Institute

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES

THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

The one hundred and fifty-eighth regular meeting of the Society was held at Columbia University on Saturday, April 27, 1912, with an attendance of fifty-two members. President H. B. Fine occupied the chair. The following new members were elected: Miss S. R. Benedict, Smith College; Mr. C. E. Fisher, Rhode Island Normal School; Dr. T. H. Gronwall, Chicago, Ill.; Mr. Louis A. Hopkins, University of Michigan; Dr. A. J. Kempner, University of Illinois; Mr. V. C. Poor, University of Michigan; Mr. R. B. Stone, Harvard University; Mr. K. P. Williams, Princeton University. Seven applications for membership in the society were received.

It was decided to hold the annual meeting this year at Cleveland, Ohio, in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The winter meeting of the Chicago Section will be merged in this general meeting of the society. Owing to President Fine's absence abroad, his presidential address will not be delivered at this meeting but at the annual meeting of 1913.

The following papers were read at the April meeting:

R. L. Moore: ''Concerning Jordan curves in non-metrical analysis situs.''

J. K. Lamond: ''Improper multiple integrals over iterable fields.''

L. A. Howland: ''Binary conditions for singular points on a cubic.''

B. H. Camp: ''Certain integrals containing parameters.''

S. Lefschetz: ''On the V_3^3 with five nodes of the second species in S_4.''

E. R. Marshall: ''A labor-saving device in computation.''

G. D. Birkhoff: ''The reducibility of maps.''

G. D. Birkhoff: ''A determinant formula for the number of ways of coloring any map.''

Oswald Veblen: ''An application of modular equations in analysis situs.''

H. B. Phillips and C. L. E. Moore: ''A geometric use of matrices.''

H. B. Phillips and C. L. E. Moore: ''A theory of linear distance and angle.''

L. P. Siceloff: ''Sylow subgroups of groups whose orders are of certain special forms.''

A. D. Pitcher: ''Concerning the continuity and convergence of functions of a general variable.''

W. R. Longley: ''Proof of a theorem due to Picard.''

A. R. Schweitzer: ''Remark on a functional equation.''

A. R. Schweitzer: ''Theorems on functional equations.''

Dunham Jackson: ''On approximation by trigonometric sums and polynomials (second paper).''

N. J. Lennes: ''Concerning Van Vleck's non-measurable set.''

N. J. Lennes: ''Concerning infinite polygons and polyhedrons.''

The next meeting of the society will be the summer meeting, which will be held at the University of Pennsylvania, September 10–11.

F. N. Cole,
Secretary