

Denny, appeared on November 15, 1814, and on December 14, 1814, the following notice appeared:

A special meeting will be held at the Society Hall next Thursday at half past six.

HARMAR DENNY, *Secretary*

Why a special meeting so soon after the election? Did Messrs. Troost and Trevor resent the fact that they were not reelected to their former positions, or had interest in things scientific declined in the borough? Perhaps it was the pressure of business, for less than a month after this notice the newly organized firm of Trevor, Pettigrew and Troost announced that the Western Eagle Lead Factory was in complete operation. The members of this firm later advertised that "they also manufacture, at their chemical laboratory, alcohol, ether, sweet spirits of nitre, aqua fortis, muriatic acid, red precipitate, calomel and chemical preparations generally."

At least one member of this firm, Dr. Troost, did not lose his interest in pure chemistry, for in 1827 he was elected lecturer in chemistry for the Pittsburgh Philosophical and Philological Society, of which Rev. Robert Bruce, the first chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh, was president.

But, to come back to the Chemical Society, it is almost certain that the Society was disbanded at the special meeting of December 14, 1814, for no other notices of meetings appeared in the newspapers.

It is interesting to know that the Pittsburgh Chemical Society was undoubtedly the third in the United States. It was preceded by two Philadelphia societies, the Chemical Society of Philadelphia, founded by James Woodhouse in 1792, and the Columbian Society of Philadelphia, founded in 1811.²

Pittsburghers have every reason to be

²Smith, Edgar Fahs, "Chemistry in America," D. Appleton and Company, 1914.

proud of the fact that so early in the history of the city, which was then a frontier town, away on the other side of the mountains, there was a live interest in science, and, especially, in that branch of science which has contributed so much to the industrial progress of the city.

JOHN O'CONNOR, JR.

MELLON INSTITUTE,
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

THE SAN DIEGO MEETING OF THE PACIFIC DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC

THE Astronomical Society of the Pacific will hold sessions in San Diego on Thursday and Friday, August 10 and 11, at the time of the meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In these sessions the Astronomical Society of Pomona College will participate.

The opening paper of the program will be presented by Professor S. D. Townley, of Stanford University, president of the society. A number of other papers have been promised by astronomers of the Pacific Coast, and an interesting program is assured. A special feature of the program will be discussion of problems presented by the nebulae. Attention is also called to the fact that the address on August 9 by the president of the Pacific Division A. A. A. S., Dr. W. W. Campbell, will be on the subject "What we know about Comets."

The titles of papers offered by members of the Society or of the Pacific Division for this meeting should be in the hands of the chairman of the program committee, R. G. Aitken, Mount Hamilton, California, before July 10, and abstracts should be submitted before July 29. It is especially requested that these abstracts be worded in popular language, as it is planned to print them in the daily press.

CORDILLERAN SECTION OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

A MEETING of the Cordilleran Section of the Geological Society of America has been ap-

pointed in conjunction with the meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in San Diego, on the dates August 9, 10 and 11, 1916. Titles of papers from members of this society to be presented at this meeting should be sent to the secretary, J. A. Taff, 781 Flood Building, San Francisco, before July 20. An abstract of about 250 words should be submitted with each title. Papers will also be welcomed from members of the Pacific Coast Section of the Paleontological Society and from the Seismological Society of America who may attend this meeting, in case these societies do not also hold meetings.

Excursions in the vicinity of San Diego will be arranged for members of the Section who desire to see geologic features of this region which are of peculiar interest. Among these features may be mentioned the cliff section of Point Loma, the great Coronado sand-spit which has formed San Diego Bay, the marine terraces on San Clemente Island, and the pegmatite dikes near Pala and Mesa Grande in which valuable deposits of gem tourmaline, garnet and kunzite have been found. The high granite peneplain of the Perris Valley and the Salton Sink and irrigation projects of the Imperial Valley may also be reached by automobile from San Diego.

J. A. TAFF,
Secretary

PACIFIC SLOPE BRANCH, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGISTS

THE first meeting of the Pacific Slope Branch of the American Association of Economic Entomologists will be held in conjunction with the meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in San Diego, California, between the dates August 9 and 12, 1916. An important feature of this meeting will be the completion of the organization of the branch and the formulation of plans for future work.

Among the papers which have already been offered for the San Diego meeting are:

"Host Relations of Ecto-parasites," by Vernon L. Kellogg, Stanford University, California.

"Economic Syrphidæ in California," by W. M. Davidson, United States Bureau of Entomology, Walnut Creek, California.

"The Chrysanthemum Gall-fly," by E. O. Essig, University of California, Berkeley.

"Some Scale Insects of Oregon," by LeRoy Childs, Oregon Agricultural College, Hood River.

"The Fruit-tree Leaf Syneta, Spraying Data and Biological Notes," by George F. Mozenette, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Titles of other papers to be presented at this meeting, together with abstracts, should be submitted to the secretary before July 20.

E. O. ESSIG,
Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

WESTERN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

THE first meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists will be held in San Diego on August 10 and 11, in conjunction with the meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The San Diego Natural History Society and the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Phytopathological Society will also participate in the meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists.

At these sessions a number of papers will be presented upon a wide range of topics of general biology which will be of interest to botanists and zoologists and also to the general public. Worthy papers upon more limited fields of zoology or botany will also be welcome. Titles of papers, together with brief abstracts, should be submitted to the secretary of the society, E. L. Michael, La Jolla, California, before July 20.

Among the papers already offered for this meeting are the following:

"Composition of the Rancho La Brea Fauna," by John C. Merriam, professor of paleontology and historical geology, University of California.

"Eugenics and War; and Isolation and Production of Germinate Species," by David Starr Jordan, chancellor, Stanford University.

"An Amateur Naturalist in Formosa," by Dr. Fred Baker, Point Loma.

"Biology's Contribution to a System of Morals Adequate for Modern Civilization," by W. E.

Ritter, scientific director, Scripps Institution for Biological Research, La Jolla.

"The Mutation Theory and the Species-concept," by R. R. Gates, acting associate professor of zoology, University of California.

Papers will also be presented by Professor H. M. Hall, Dr. Joseph Grinnell and Mr. Tracy I. Storer, of the University of California; by Dr. D. T. MacDougal, Desert Botanical Laboratory, Tucson; Professor Harry Beal Torrey, Reed College, Portland, and others.

On Thursday afternoon, August 10, the session will take the form of a conference upon the tuna fisheries of southern California. A consideration of the tuna fisheries is especially appropriate at this time in view of the recent development of this industry, the establishment of tuna canneries at San Diego and other ports of southern California, and the work of the *Albatross* of the United States Bureau of Fisheries in tuna investigations in southern California waters this summer.

BARTON W. EVERMANN,
President

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. HENRY M. HOWE, emeritus professor of metallurgy in Columbia University, has been appointed honorary vice-president of the Iron and Steel Institute of Great Britain.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has elected as correspondent in the section of medicine and surgery in succession to the late Professor Mosso, of Turin, Dr. Bergonié, professor of biological physics and medical electricity at Bordeaux.

AN honorary degree was conferred by the University of California at its fifty-third commencement exercises on John Stillman, professor of chemistry in and vice-president of Stanford University.

SAMUEL GIBSON DIXON, Pennsylvania state health commissioner and president of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, received the degree of Sc.D. from Lafayette College at the annual commencement on June 14.

AT the annual commencement of the University of Cincinnati, on June 10, the honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred on Professor John Uri Lloyd, Cincinnati, known for his contributions to chemistry and pharmacy.

GEORGE FREEMAN PARMENTER, Merrill professor of chemistry in Colby College, has been given the degree of doctor of science by the college.

AT its recent commencement the University of Pennsylvania conferred on Daniel Lincoln Wallace, the degree of doctor in chemistry.

DR. CHARLES WILLEMS, surgeon of Ghent, has been elected a foreign correspondent of the Paris Academy of Medicine.

AT the annual meeting of the American Academy of Medicine, held in Detroit, on June 12, the following officers were elected: president, Dr. Jacob E. Tuckerman, Cleveland; vice-presidents, Dr. Frederick L. Van Sickle, Olyphant, Pa., and Dr. Ray Connor, Detroit, and secretary, Dr. Thomas W. Grayson, Pittsburgh.

DR. ALLEN K. KRAUSE, of the Saranac Lake (N. Y.) laboratories, will take charge of the work on tuberculosis in the Phipps laboratories of the Johns Hopkins University, made possible by the recent gift of Mr. Kenneth Dows.

DR. H. R. WAHL, associate in pathology, Western Reserve Medical School, has been elected director of laboratories in the new Mount Sinai Hospital.

PROFESSOR SELSKAR M. GUNN, director of the division of hygiene of the Massachusetts State Department of Health, has resigned.

WILLARD J. FISHER, head of the department of physics at the New Hampshire College, has retired to devote himself to research work.

FREDERIC A. HARVEY, Ph.D., has resigned from the faculty of Syracuse University to accept a position as technical physicist with the Solvay Process Co., at Syracuse, N. Y.

PROFESSORS W. B. CANNON, of Harvard University, Frederic S. Lee, of Columbia University, and William H. Park, of New York University, and Drs. McCoy and Eichorn, of