the farmer's profits, has given way to a tendency toward the other extreme which holds that good crops are an injury to the farmer since they are usually accompanied by lower prices. Both extremes were declared erroneous. The conclusion was drawn that "agricultural practise is the resultant of many forces acting in as many different directions," all of which must be fully taken into account in prescribing rules for improvement.

In considering the subject of "Regional Conditions in Determining the Type of Agricultural Inquiry," Director Youngblood took for illustration the state of Texas, which is especially well adapted to the purpose. Within the state the variation in rainfall is from 8 to 55 inches, in elevation from sea level to approximately five thousand feet, in temperature from semi-tropical to strictly temperate, and in topography from flat to rough, while the soils of different localities are derived from various phases of at least ten geological periods. And apart from these physical differences the general character of the agriculture, the distance from market, and the intellectual status of the people all have to be taken into account in adjusting the agricultural inquiry to the needs of the locality.

The plan in Texas is adapted to these diverse conditions by means of a system of branch experiment stations located in typical agricultural areas and closely articulated with a central station at the agricultural college. In a sense these branch stations represent the industries of the locality and deal largely with practical questions, the plans for the experiments all being made with the advice of the experts at the central station, where a strong scientific basis is worked out on which to rest them. Director Youngblood laid emphasis on the endeavor to educate the people to the appreciation of all agricultural investigation, however simple or technical, and he expressed the conviction that even under the new and often transitional conditions in his state technical studies may be of the greatest practical value and may be made popular with the people.

In commenting on the papers in this symposium, Dr. Jordan drew the conclusion of the value of sound research and carefully guarded interpretation. He asserted that the experiment stations have been and are still putting too much time on mere variables that have no general significance, and too little on broad fundamentals. He also called attention to the fallacy and unwisdom of attempting to state the results of experiment in terms of dollars and cents—measures which have no real permanent or scientific significance.

Dr. L. H. Bailey referred to the difficulty in interpreting in the lives of the people and in public policy the results of agricultural investigation and inquiry; and he mentioned the desirability of a large and powerful organization which should bring its influence to bear in this direction, especially in expressing the voice of science in political matters and measures of public policy.

The officers elected for the coming year were as follows: *Vice-president,* Dr. H. J. Waters, president of the Kansas State Agricultural College; *Member of the Council,* President R. A. Pearson, of the Iowa State College; *Member of the General Committee,* Dr. J. G. Lipman, of the New Jersey Experiment Stations; *Member of the Sectional Committee* (for five years), Dean A. F. Woods, of the College of Agriculture, University of Minnesota.

E. W. Allen,
Secretary

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

The 506th meeting of the society was held in the Lecture Room of the Carnegie Library, on February 6. On this occasion Dr. J. Walter Fewkes, of the Bureau of American Ethnology, presented a paper on "Prehistoric Ruins of the Mesa Verde National Park," illustrated by lantern slides.

Dr. Fewkes described in detail the uncovering and repair of a large pueblo-like building in the Mesa Verde Park, near the ruin known as Spruce-tree House. This work was accomplished by the speaker during the summer of 1916. The structure brought to light was 113 feet long by 100 feet wide, the ground plan showing the existence of four circular ceremonial rooms compactly embedded in fifty rectangular enclosures which were formerly used for secular purposes. From its wide southerly outlook this ruin has received the name of Far View House. It is the first pueblo habitation of this type ever found on the plateau.

After an extended consideration of the kiva or sacred room in its relation to pueblo architecture Dr. Fewkes described certain prehistoric kivas of the type generally called towers which he found in a canyon near Ouray, Utah. From their location on top of inverted cones of rock these were called by him Mushroom Rock ruins. The shape of these inverted cones of rock bore evidence to the enormous erosion which has occurred in this region.

Frances Densmore,
Secretary