

number of investigators. Superintendent W. H. Thomas has been designated acting director of the laboratory for the season. Dr. George T. Moore, of the Missouri Botanical Garden, assisted by F. B. Dieuaide, will conduct experiments on the production and utilization of algin. Professor Edwin Linton, of Washington and Jefferson College, will continue investigations of the parasites of fishes and the food of flounders and other fishes.

The Beaufort laboratory having been turned over to the Navy Department, no work will be done there this summer.

#### THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING ENGINEERS

IN an effort to increase the scope of their war service, the American Institute of Mining Engineers will meet in Colorado during the week of September 2, to take up vital problems of immediate importance. Mining engineers from every section of the country will attend. During the meeting, trips are to be made from Colorado Springs to the Cripple Creek district, Pueblo, the Leadville district and Boulder. The week's session will open in Denver on the second of September, and will that evening move to Colorado Springs, which will be the principal headquarters for the duration of the meeting.

This is the first meeting of the entire institute in Colorado since 1896, and an appropriate entertainment program is being planned by the several hundred Colorado members. One of the special features of the entertainment will be an auto drive to the top of Pikes Peak. The sections of Colorado to be visited are rich in many war minerals of importance including ferro alloys, radium, molybdenite ores and pyrites.

Those who are directing the plans for the Colorado meeting are as follows: Committee in charge, Spencer Penrose, chairman, A. E. Carlton, chairman finance committee, George M. Taylor, vice-chairman, J. Dawson Hawkins, secretary. Denver Committees: (Arrangement) Dave G. Miller, Frank Bulkley, Geo. E. Collins; (Entertainment) F. H. Bostwick, F. E. Shepard, Howland Bancroft, B. P.

Morse, J. G. Perry; (Finance) T. B. Stearns, Richard A. Parker, T. B. Burbidge.

#### THIRD SUMMER MEETING OF THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

It is announced in the *American Mathematical Monthly* that the third summer meeting of the Association will be held by invitation of Dartmouth College at Hanover, New Hampshire, on Friday and Saturday, September 6-7, 1918, in conjunction with, and following, the summer meeting of the American Mathematical Society. A joint dinner will be arranged for Thursday evening, September 5, and at a joint session on Friday morning the subject of the mathematics of warfare is to be treated by men now actively engaged in government service.

During the sessions of the association on Friday and Saturday, Professor Florian Cajori, of the University of California, will deliver his address, as retiring president, on "Plans for a History of Mathematics in the Nineteenth Century"; Professor W. F. Osgood, of Harvard University, will speak "On the Mathematical Formulation of Physical Concepts and Laws as treated in the Calculus"; and Professor F. L. Kennedy, of Harvard University, will give a paper on "Some Experiments in the Teaching of Descriptive Geometry," the discussion being led by Dean O. E. Randall, of Brown University. Other features of the association's program will be announced later.

For a session on Friday members are invited to submit papers on topics of their own choosing. Abstracts of such papers in a form suitable for publication in the Secretary's report of the meeting should be sent to Professor R. C. Archibald, Brown University, chairman of the program committee, not later than August first, in order to be approved by the committee in time for publication in the printed program; authors will please state the time necessary for reading their papers. No other announcement will be made until the program is mailed to members about the middle of August.

The committee on arrangements, Professor J. W. Young, chairman, announces that Dartmouth College will open one of its dormitories for the accommodation of attending members.

A separate entrance, or at least a separate floor, will be provided for ladies or married couples. Meals will be furnished under the auspices of the college at reasonable rates. The rates for the occupancy of dormitory rooms will probably be one dollar per day per person. Persons desiring to stay over Sunday and Monday for the purpose of making excursions into the neighboring hills and mountains can probably be accommodated.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR WILLIAM CROOKES, O.M., celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday on June 17.

MR. HORACE LAMB, F.R.S., professor of mathematics in the University of Manchester, has been appointed Halley lecturer at Oxford University for next year.

DR. WILLIAM S. THAYER, of the Johns Hopkins University, now a colonel in the National Army, has been made a foreign member of the French Academy of Medicine.

A SECTION of Anthropology in the Division of Medical Records in the Office of the Surgeon General, was created on July 23, 1918. Major Chas. B. Davenport, Sanitary Corps, N. A., has been designated as the officer in charge. The functions of this section are to be: To secure the highest quality of the measurement of recruits and of identification records as done by the Surgeon General's Office for the purposes of the War Department; to assist, as called upon, in the analysis and synthesis of the statistics compiled from medical records; to care for and help analyze physical examination records; to care for and classify identification records, and to assist the War Department in all questions about racial dimensions and differences.

PROFESSOR E. V. HUNTINGTON, president of the Mathematical Association of America, has taken leave of absence from Harvard University and with the rank of major in the national army is assigned to statistical study under the chief of staff with residence in Washington.

PROFESSOR A. D. COLE, professor of physics at Ohio State University, is in Washington

for the summer, engaged in research work in the Bureau of Standards.

MR. W. L. CURRIE, of Glasgow, has been elected president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

THE Association of Military Surgeons of the United States will hold its annual meeting for 1918 at Camp Greenleaf, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., on October 13 and 15, under the presidency of Medical Director George A. Lung, of the U. S. Navy.

By request of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy the National Research Council has formed a committee on explosives investigations composed of Lieutenant Colonel W. C. Sprance, Jr., Ordnance, National Army, nominated by the Chief of Ordnance of the Army; Lieutenant Commander T. S. Wilkinson, United States Navy, nominated by the Chief of Ordnance, United States Navy, and Mr. L. L. Summers, representing the War Industries Board, with Dr. Charles E. Munroe, dean of the faculty of graduate studies of the George Washington University, as chairman. The functions of the committee as officially defined are: (1) To survey the investigations on explosives now under way and to keep closely in touch with their subsequent progress. (2) To gather and communicate to the proper military and naval authorities all information available in regard to such investigations. (3) To bring to the attention of the proper military and naval authorities proposals for supplementary investigations relating to explosives, and to arrange for the prosecution of such investigations by the civilian bureaus of the government, by industrial companies and by universities and endowed research institutions. The office of the committee is in the building of the National Research Council at 1023 Sixteenth Street, Washington, D. C.

DRS. C. E. FERREE and G. Rand, of Bryn Mawr College, presented a paper at the fifty-fourth Annual Convention of the American Ophthalmological Society on July 10 on "The Inertia of Adjustment of the Eye for Clear Seeing at Different Distances." A method and apparatus were described for testing for