

ographies of Benjamin Osgood Peirce, and Cleveland Abbe, and the bound volume distributed. The following biographies forming a part of Volume IX. have been completed and distributed: William Bullock Clark by John M. Clarke; Arnold Hague by Joseph P. Iddings; Eugene Waldemar Hilgard by Frederic Slate; James Dwight Dana, by L. V. Pirsson; James Mason Crafts, by Charles R. Cross; Lewis Boss, by Benjamin Boss, and Alpheus Spring Packard, by T. D. A. Cockerell. That of Charles Sedgwick Minot is now in page proof.

The Report of the National Academy of Sciences has been issued and the fourth Annual Report of the National Research Council will be issued in separate form in a few days. The Proceedings have reached the third number of the sixth volume.

Since the last meeting, two members have died. Louis V. Pirsson, elected 1913, died December 8, 1919, and Horatio C. Wood, elected in 1879, died in 1919. This leaves an active membership of 175 members, 1 honorary member and 31 foreign associates. Gustav Retzius, foreign associate, died on July 12, 1919.

C. G. ABBOT,
Home Secretary

MATHEMATICAL MEETINGS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE twenty-seventh summer meeting and ninth colloquium of the American Mathematical Society will be held at the University of Chicago during the week beginning Monday, September 6, 1920. The sessions of the Mathematical Association of America will occupy Monday morning and afternoon. The council of the society will meet on Monday evening. The regular sessions of the society will occupy Tuesday morning and afternoon and Wednesday morning. The joint dinner of the society and the association will be held on Tuesday evening.

The University of Chicago will open two of its dormitories, one for men and one for women, during the week of the meeting, and meals will be provided on the university grounds. Advance information on these matters can be obtained from Professor H. E. Slaught.

The colloquium will open Wednesday afternoon and will extend through Saturday morning. It will consist of two courses of five lectures each, as follows: I. Professor G. D.

Birkhoff, of Harvard University: "Dynamical systems." The last forty years have witnessed fundamental advances in the theory of dynamical systems, achieved by Hill, Poincaré, Levi-Civita, Sundman, and others. The lectures will expound the general principles underlying these advances, and will point out their application to the problem of three bodies as well as their significance for general scientific thought. The following topics will be treated: Physical, formal, and computational aspects of dynamical systems. Types of motions such as periodic and recurrent motions, and motions asymptotic to them. Interrelation of types of motion with particular reference to integrability and stability. The problem of three bodies and its extension. The significance of dynamical systems for general scientific thought.

II. Professor F. R. Moulton, of the University of Chicago: "Certain topics in functions of infinitely many variables." I. On the definition and some general properties of functions of infinitely many variables. II. On infinite systems of linear equations. III. Infinite systems of implicit functions. IV. Infinite system of differential equations. V. Applications to physical problems.

THE SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

A MEETING of the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in Washington on April 26, approved the organization of the Southwestern Division of the Association, which was tentatively made in a meeting of delegates held at the University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, on Saturday, April 10.

At that meeting Dr. D. T. MacDougal was delegate from the American Association. Local delegates came from Prescott, Phoenix, and Tucson, Arizona Albuquerque, New Mexico and El Paso, Texas.

Dr. Edgar L. Hewett, of the School of American Research, director of the Archaeological Institute, director of the State Museum at Santa Fe, N. M., and the Archaeo-

logical Museum in San Diego, was elected president of the Southwestern Division; Elliott C. Prentiss, M.D., of El Paso, Texas, was elected vice-president and chairman of the executive committee; and Dr. A. E. Douglass, of the University of Arizona, was elected secretary and treasurer.

The executive committee in its membership besides the three officers just mentioned consists of Dr. John D. Clark, Albuquerque; A. L. Flagg, Phoenix; Fabian Garcia, Mesilla Park; Arthur Notman, Bisbee; Richard S. Trumbull, El Paso; Milton Updegraff, Prescott; and Charles T. Vorhies, Tucson.

A constitution was adopted. The area included in this Division will be Arizona, New Mexico and West Texas.

Dr. Edgar L. Hewett, the newly elected president of the Southwestern Division, gave a lecture entitled "Our Place in Civilization," at the University of Arizona, Tucson, on April 28 and at El Paso, Texas, on April 30. In connection with the formation of this division also Dr. A. E. Douglass, of the University of Arizona, gave a lecture entitled "The Big Tree and its Story," in Phoenix, Arizona on April 1.

THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT DRINKER OF LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

DR. HENRY S. DRINKER has addressed to his fellow-alumni of Lehigh University, the following letter:

I have felt for some time and have so stated, informally, to the members of our board of trustees, that as I reach the age of seventy this year, it would be the part of wisdom for me to retire from the presidency of the university. I have therefore tendered my resignation to take effect at the close of the commencement exercises on June 15th next. So far as I know, I am in perfect health and in good strength, but I wish to retire while my friends still feel they desire my services to continue. I am not willing to hold on for some time, as I might do, and then feel that increasing years and failing powers compel my retirement.

From the time of my graduation in June, 1871, I have been devoted to the service of the university's interests, and have served as secretary of the alumni, president of the alumni, alumnus trustee, trustee and president, and now in proposing to

drop out of active presidential duties, I have no thought of lessening my interests in the alma mater, nor is my retirement from the presidency prompted by any thought except that I have accomplished the things for which I came here, and I now wish to see the leadership of the university pass into the hands of a younger man, one qualified by educational training and actual large experience in educational work, and possessing marked executive ability. I am satisfied that the university has reached a stage in its existence requiring for its leadership and guidance, a man possessing these characteristics.

It has been my privilege to bring to the service of the university energy, devotion and business experience. It was thought at the time of my election, when the university was in financial strain, and in need of greater facilities in plant and equipment and a larger teaching force, that the energies of its friends should be directed to these ends, and I was asked to undertake the task. To-day, with our plant in greatly improved shape, with our faculty increased from 15 in 1905, to 33 in 1920, the entire teaching force raised from 57 to 89, with our financial situation greatly improved and comparing favorably with that of our competitors, our present need is, as above stated, for a man experienced and trained in educational methods, and with good executive ability; I feel content in the knowledge that our board of trustees will well consider the situation, and fittingly serve our university's needs.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the recent meeting of the National Academy of Sciences the following foreign associates were elected: Frank Dawson Adams, McGill University; Marie Ennemond Camille Jordan, Collège of France; François Antoine Alfred Lacroix, Musée d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris; Heike Kamerlingh Onnes, University of Leyden; Sir David Prain, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Surrey; Santiago Ramon y Cajal, University of Madrid.

THE National Academy of Sciences has recommended to Columbia University that the Barnard medal be conferred on Albert Einstein "for highly original and fruitful development of the fundamental concepts of physics through the application of mathematics." The Agassiz medal has been awarded to Admiral C.