

center of one of the largest market garden regions in the country, is at the port of entry for most of our foreign plant importations, and at the terminus for the largest domestic shipments by rail of fruits and vegetables. The plant disease problems in connection with this commercial activity are many, and are of the highest scientific interest as well as of great economic importance. These facts have been recognized by the Botanic Garden governing committee and other friends of the garden, and a fund of fifty thousand dollars has been subscribed to become available over a period of four years from January 1, 1921. It is the intention to give special emphasis to the pure science phase of plant disease problems. A curatorship of plant pathology has been established, and it is planned to erect an experimental greenhouse at an early date. Dr. George Matthew Reed, of the Office of Cereal Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C., has been appointed to the new curatorship beginning January 1, 1921.

#### THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

THE annual meeting (the 106th regular meeting) of the American Physical Society will be held in Chicago, on December 28, 29 and 30, 1920, in affiliation with Section B—Physics—of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The meetings will be held in the lecture room of the Kent Chemical Laboratory of the University of Chicago.

The program of technical and scientific papers, to be given on Tuesday and Thursday, will be in charge of the Physical Society. On Wednesday morning there will be a joint session with the Optical Society of America.

The session on the afternoon of Wednesday, will be in charge of Section B, at which time Professor Max Mason, the retiring vice-president and chairman of Section B, will give an address on "From Oersted to Einstein." This will be followed by a symposium on "Recent Progress in Magnetism" with papers by S. J. Barnett, S. R. Williams and A. H. Compton.

Other meetings for the current season are as follows:

107. February 25–26, 1921. New York.

108. April 22–23, 1921. Washington.

109. Time not determined. Pacific Coast Section.

DAYTON C. MILLER,  
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#### THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

THE fifth annual meeting of the Mathematical Association of America and the second annual meeting of Illinois section will be held at the University of Chicago on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28 and 29, 1920, in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science and in connection with the western meeting of the American Mathematical Society. The Illinois section will meet jointly with the Association in all its sessions, but will hold a separate business meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

On Wednesday evening at half past six there will be a joint dinner at the Quadrangle Club of all the mathematical organizations, together with Section D (Astronomy) of the American Association.

The meetings will be held in Ryerson Physical Laboratory and in the physiological laboratory. The former is situated near the corner of 58th Street and University Avenue, the latter is the southwest building of the Hull Biological group near 57th Street.

It is proposed that the Mathematical Association of America should emphasize in its meetings the presentation of historical papers, and to this end it welcomes the opportunity to meet the newly organized Section L (Historical and Philological Sciences, including the History of Science) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in two joint sessions for the reading of such papers. It is also planned that the association should encourage the presentation of expository papers of a fairly elementary character, and several such papers have been included in this program.