7. The device may, of course, be made in any desired size but the dimensions given seem the most convenient, and the acircular shape of the base facilitates locating index *a*. Indelibility is obtained by engraving the lines with a steel point and filling with India ink.

8. Illustrations of the use of this compound circular slide rule are given above.

C. M. KELLEY

PSYCHOLOGICAL LABORATORY OF
McLEAN HOSPITAL

MEETING OF COMMITTEES ON CONSERVATION

COMMITTEES on Conservation appointed by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science met jointly in the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, April 9, to consider the present status of the conservation movement from the point of view of science, means for increasing the coordination of the numerous agencies interested in the various aspects of conservation, and particularly the far-reaching relation of the principles of the conservation of natural resources to the economic and social welfare of the country. The members present at this meeting were: J. C. Merriam, chairman of three committees, Isaiah Bowman, J. McK. Cattell, John M. Clarke, Henry S. Graves, Vernon Kellogg, C. E. McClung, and Barrington Moore, and by invitation Willard G. Van Name.

The point of view of the committees and the major considerations discussed at this meeting are stated in an address which Mr. Graves presented at this meeting and which is published in full elsewhere in this issue of SCIENCE.

It was the unanimous opinion of the members of the committees that an organization should be effected representing the scientific men of the country, and that the functions of this organization, broadly speaking, should be as follows:

1. To bring scientific research to bear more effectively upon the problems of conservation. This involves the extension among research men of a knowledge of the scope, the objectives, and the economic problems of conservation, and the assurance that in the studies of each resource there is an appreciation of its relation to other resources, and the correlation of the programs of research in each field of work.

2. To assemble the available data relating to our natural resources, and the interpretation of these data from the standpoint of conservation and of the relation of the problems of the various resources, severally and taken together, to the economic, industrial, and social welfare of different regions and of the nation as a whole. This work is essential for an adequate definition of our conservation problems, and to furnish the economic background for the many proposals for public action by the states and by the federal government.

3. To bring about the introduction in our educational institutions of instruction in the principles underlying conservation. The plan of instruction should be subject to great variation in different institutions. The instruction might be given in connection with courses in economic or political and social science, or economic and industrial history, or in connection with various courses in engineering and applied science, or in special courses in conservation.

The undertaking would involve personal contact and cooperation with the institutions or educational organizations. It would involve further suggestions as to the preparation of text-books and special material for demonstration, such as charts, models and maps, and suggestions regarding the methods of instruction.

4. To effect leadership in a campaign of popular education as to the meaning of conservation, and the necessity for the adoption of its principles.

5. To bring into effective harmony the efforts of the different forces of the country concerned with conservation based upon scientific research which it is difficult for any of the existing agencies to effect.

The following resolution was adopted to be reported for approval to the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science:

Resolved: That it be recommended by the committees appointed by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Research Council that they form a continuing joint committee on national conservation representing those organizations, and that this committee be authorized to set up an executive and secretarial agency for the active prosecution of its work.

To carry forward the purposes of this resolution the following motions were passed:

Moved: That a Project Committee of three members be appointed by the chairman to draw up a plan of action to be presented to a Ways and Means Committee for execution.

Moved: That a Ways and Means Committee be appointed by the chairman to consist of one representative each from the National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council, and American Association for the Advancement of Science; and, conditioned upon the approval of the resolution just adopted, by these three organizations, to undertake (1) to secure means for meeting the comparatively small expenses of these three initial committees, and (2) to secure larger funds for the permanent support of a conservation movement as outlined in this discussion.

The resolution adopted by these committees has been approved by the Council of the National Academy of Sciences, the Executive Board of the National Research Council, and the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the recent meetings of those bodies and funds have been provided for defraying the immediate expenses of these committees.

Albert L. Barrows,
Secretary, pro tempore

THE WESTERN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS—SAN JACINTO SECTION

The San Jacinto Section of the Western Society of Naturalists held its spring meeting in San Diego and La Jolla, California, on Friday and Saturday, April 1 and 2, 1921. The Friday session convened at 2:30 at the San Diego Museum of Natural History in Balboa Park, President H. S. Reed, of Riverside, presiding. The following papers were presented at this session:

Bryan, W. A. (Museum of History, Science, and Art, Los Angeles): "Observations on the fauna and flora of some seldom visited Pacific islands."

Sumner, F. B. (Scripps Institution for Scientific Research, La Jolla): "Responsibility of the biologist in the matter of preserving natural conditions."

Taylor, W. P. (Bureau of Biological Survey, Dept. of Agriculture): "Distribution of mammals and birds on Mount Ranier."

Frost, H. B. (Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside): "International language in relation to science."

Conklin, E. G. (Princeton University): "The chromosome theory of heredity applied to ontogeny and phylogeny."

Carsner, Eubanks (Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Dept. Agr.): "A serious disease of the sugar-beet in California."

The society adjourned at 6:00 o'clock to the San Diego Hotel for the annual dinner and a short business meeting at which Dr. F. B. Sumner, of the Scripps Institution, La Jolla, was elected president for the coming year, and Dr. F. J. Smiley, of Occidental College, Los Angeles, re-elected secretary. After the business meeting the following papers were presented:

Essenberg, Christine (Scripps Institution): "An interesting group belonging to the marine fauna of San Diego Bay."

Allen, W. E. (Scripps Institution): "Investigation of the ocean pasturage."

Halma, F. E. (Citrus Experiment Station): "Regeneration of the roots of sour orange."

Barnhart, P. S. (Scripps Institution): "Observations on the habits of the trap-door spider."

Saturday morning the section assembled in La Jolla and visited Torrey Pines Park, a reservation for the protection of one of California's rarest trees (*Pinus Torreyana* Parry). The afternoon was devoted to an inspection of the Scripps Collection of Watercolors illustrating the flora of California at the home of Miss Ellen Scripps, and to visiting the Scripps Institution.

The next meeting is to be held at the call of the president and secretary.

F. J. Smiley,
Secretary