

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SIGMA XI

THE executive committee of the Sigma XI Society held its annual spring meeting in New York on May 21.

Careful consideration was given to requests for chapters from a considerable number of institutions and arrangements made in individual cases to recommend the granting of certain charters by the Convention to be held next winter. In other cases petitions were laid over without prejudice for further information and future action.

It was reported that the National Research Council had voted to recognize Sigma Xi by appointing the president as an ex-officio member of the executive board.

The invitation from the Royal Canadian Institute to hold the mid-winter convention in Toronto was accepted and the date fixed for Wednesday, December 28. The convention will be held in the afternoon and the dinner in the evening of that day.

The report of the fellowship committee showed sufficient funds already at hand to assure the success of the plan and it was voted to establish one or more Sigma XI fellowships for the year beginning September, 1921. The Ph.D. degree or its equivalent was decided upon as a prerequisite for appointment, and a sub-committee consisting of Professor Edward Ellery (Union College) and Professor F. K. Richtmyer (Cornell University) was appointed with authority to fix the stipend and to recommend appointments as well as the precise terms under which the fellowships will be maintained. In view of the fact that provisions had already been made under direction of the National Research Council for fellowships in physics and chemistry during the next five years it was voted that, at least for next year, Sigma XI will give preference to other sciences in making the awards of its fellowships.

The membership committee recommended certain changes in order to make possible a wider enlistment of the membership in the work of the society. The preliminary plan includes the division of the organization into

members and associates, with the recognition of two groups distinguished on a functional basis, viz: chapter members and associates and general members and associates. The chapter functions will remain unchanged, whereas the members and associates in the general group will participate in the advancement of research through the national convention, the fellowship movement, conferences at scientific meetings, Sigma Xi clubs and such other activities as do not infringe on the rights and privileges of the active chapters. It seemed advisable that the general group should have at least one representative on the executive committee, the representation from the active chapters being then four elective members on that committee. This subject will be more definitely formulated for discussion at the coming convention.

Several minor constitutional amendments were discussed and formulated for presentation through the chapters in the customary manner.

HENRY B. WARD,
Secretary

BERKELEY MEETING OF THE PACIFIC DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE fifth annual meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held from August 4 to 6 at Berkeley, California, in quarters provided by the University of California. Previous meetings in the order named have been held at San Diego, Stanford University, Pasadena and Seattle. The location at Berkeley will insure a large attendance, as many members of the Pacific Division are resident in the San Francisco Bay region.

Fourteen affiliated societies whose announcements follow will participate in the Berkeley meeting.

GENERAL SESSIONS

Features of the general sessions in which the membership of the Pacific Division and affiliated societies will unite are set forth in