rably for the government service into which he now entered and in which he remained during the rest of his life. From 1901 to 1908 he was engineer of tests in the office of the supervising architect of the Treasury Department and continued that work until 1910 after it was taken over by the Technologic Branch of the Geological Survey. In 1910 this service was transferred to the Bureau of Standards, where it has since remained.

Voorhees was at the time of his death a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Washington Academy of Sciences, the Biological Society of Washington, the American Society for Testing Materials, and the International Association for Testing Materials. He was long a member also of the Society of Chemical Industry. In the American Society for Testing Materials he was most active, serving a term as vice-president and frequently on committees, participating in the preparation of many reports. It is upon these reports and the very many that he rendered in government service that Voorhees's professional reputation chiefly rests. His long and varied experience in the fields of railroad and structural supplies gave him a practical knowledge and a grasp of the applications of those materials such as few men possess.

Associated as I was with him for over eleven years at the Bureau of Standards, where he was in charge of a section of the chemistry division, I bear glad testimony to his intense loyalty to our government and to his unflagging zeal and industry on its behalf. To aid the government, the public and the industries was his constant aim. I also wish to acknowledge my own indebtedness for the strong support and wise counsel that were ever at my service. His loss left a void in the Bureau of Standards that will be hard to fill.

The social side of Voorhees was strongly developed. He was an active member of the Cosmos Club of Washington, enjoyed the company of others and contributed to their enjoyment, whether as genial entertainer or attentive listener, always the courtly gentleman. His disposition was most kindly, and any friend or neighbor in trouble or sickness was sure of his solicitous attention. Voorhees was an ardent fisherman, and it was with evident anticipations of a good time with the finny tribe that he set out on his trip to the Maine woods. His last note to me from camp, however, raised forebodings as he told of his inability to join in the sport he so enjoyed. Peace to the spirit of a fine man and a faithful friend.

W. F. HILLEBRAND

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

REPRESENTATIVE manufacturers of synthetic organic chemicals met at Washington on October 28 and 29 to effect a comprehensive national organization of the several closely related lines of manufacture included in this branch of chemical industry.

The name of the new organization is Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers' Association of the United States. Its purposes, as set forth in the Constitution adopted, are

> To advance the science of organic chemistry by encouraging the manufacture in the United States of all kinds of organic chemicals; to cooperate with the various agencies of the Government of the United States in its efforts to develop, improve and render serviceable a complete organic chemical industry; to promote cordial relations between American concerns and individuals engaged in the production and use of organic chemicals; to afford means for the dissemination of scientific knowledge; to promote the highest scientific and business standards in relation to the industry; and generally to take such collective action as may be proper for the establishment and perpetuation of the organic chemical independence of the United States of America.

The association is subdivided into four sections—Dyestuffs, Pharmaceuticals, Intermediates and Fine Organic Chemicals—each section having a vice-president, a secretary and an executive committee. The administration of the association is in the hands of a board of governors, consisting of the president, the four vice-presidents, and ten members nominated by the sections.

The following officers were elected:

President: Chas. H. Herty, formerly editor of the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry.*

Vice-Presidents: C. N. Turner of the Dyestuff Section; Herman Seydell of the Pharmaceutical Section; S. W. Wilder of the Intermediate Section; B. T. Bush of the Fine Organic Chemical Section.

Members of the Board of Governors: R. S. Burdick; R. C. Jeffcott; August Merz; M. R. Poucher; P. Schleussner and F. P. Summers.

The remaining four members of the Board of Governors, one from each section, will be elected later. The president and the four vice-presidents are ex-officio members of the board of governors.

THE EDITORSHIP OF THE "JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL AND ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY"

Mr. Harrison E. Howe has been elected to succeed Dr. Charles H. Herty as editor of the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* and director of the A. C. S. News Service, which are conducted by the American Chemical Society. Dr. Charles L. Parsons, of Washington, secretary of the society, states that Mr. Howe has accepted the positions.

Mr. Howe was graduated from Earlham College and the University of Rochester. As chief chemist of the Sanilac Sugar Refining Company, in like capacity with the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company of Rochester, New York, and as manager of the commercial department of A. D. Little, Incorporated, of Boston, and manager of the Montreal offices of that organization, he became familiar with the broadest phases of industrial chemistry. In the war he was consulting chemist of the nitrate division of the Ordnance Bureau of the United States Army. Until his election to his present position Mr. Howe was at the head of the division of research extension of the National Research Council. He writes extensively for magazines on applied chemistry and is the author of a recently published popular work, "The New Stone Age."

Dr. Herty resigned the editorship to which Mr. Howe succeeds to accept the presidency of the newly formed Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers' Association of the United States, which has opened offices on the 34th floor of the Metropolitan Tower at No. 1 Madison Avenue. Dr. Herty's career in chemical journalism has been varied by many public activities. By special appointment of President Wilson he went to Paris in 1919 as the representative of the United States in the matter of the distribution of German dyestuffs under the economic clauses of the Peace Treaty. Dr. Herty was also chairman of the committee of the American Chemical Society advisory to the Chemical Warfare Service, member of the dye advisory committee of the Department of State, and chairman of the advisory committee of the National Exposition of Chemical Industries. Before beginning this work, Dr. Herty had been a professor in chemistry at the University of Georgia and at the University of North Carolina. In his new position he will devote himself to the development of American synthetic organic chemical industry.

DIRECTOR OF THE HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY

As was noted last week in Science, Dr. Harlow Shapley, formerly of the Mt. Wilson Solar Observatory at Pasadena, Cal., and for the past eight months observer at the Harvard College Observatory, has been appointed director of the Harvard Observatory. That post has been vacant since the death of Professor Edward C. Pickering in 1919.

An article in the *Harvard Alumni Bulletin* states that Dr. Shapley was born thirty-five years ago at Nashville, Miss. He studied at the University of Missouri, and received the degree of Ph.D. at Princeton. From 1914 until last spring, when he came to Harvard, he was attached to the Mt. Wilson Observatory.

At Mt. Wilson he perfected methods of measuring star distances photometrically, and applied these methods to the problem of the distances and structures of the great star-clusters. His work has given a new perception of the size of the stellar universe, and