

Vice-president, W. J. Humphreys, U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Charles F. Brooks, Clark University, Worcester, Mass. On Thursday morning Professor Robert DeC. Ward, of Harvard University, gave his address on "Tendencies and progress in climatology during the past decade." The meteorological luncheon was held on Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Hart House. On Wednesday afternoon the society held a symposium on "Improvements in synoptic weather charts, especially on the reduction of atmospheric pressure observations," at which the following papers were read: (1) "The history of barometry in the United States," C. Leroy Meisinger, U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.; (2) "Reduction of barometer to sea-level," C. F. Marvin, U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.; (3) "Upper air pressure maps as possible aids in the solution of the barometry problem," C. LeRoy Meisinger, U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.; (4) "Sea-level vs. the Megadyne base," Alexander McAdie, Harvard University, Blue Hill Observatory, Readville, Mass. (By title); (5) "Major wind streams vs. high and low pressure centers as the basis for weather forecasting," W. G. Reed, Philadelphia, Pa. (By title); (6) "Cloud movements as aids in forecasting," C. F. Brooks, Clark University, Worcester, Mass. Fifteen other scientific papers were read during these sessions.

Section of the Physical Science Committee of the National Research Council.—Meetings were held in Hart House, Prof. H. G. Gale acting as chairman.

It seemed to be the consensus of opinion that the Toronto meeting had been an exceptionally interesting and inspiring one. Contributing to the success of the meeting was the untiring work of the local committees and the cordiality of the members of the University of Toronto and the Royal Canadian Society. The international character of the Toronto meeting was noted by the presence of more Canadians than usual and by the distinguished visitors from abroad.

The secretary wishes to thank especially those who at the last minute took upon themselves the work of preparing papers for the

joint meeting of Section B with the Associated Societies.

S. R. WILLIAMS,
Secretary, Section B

SECTION K—SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCES

No separate session of Section K was arranged for the Toronto meeting on account of the recent death of the secretary, Dr. Loomis. A joint session of the section was held, however, with Section Q (Education) on Friday afternoon, December 30, 1921. At this meeting Dr. Frederick L. Hoffman, the recently elected secretary of the section, read an extended address on "The Organization of Knowledge," subsequently reprinted in *SCIENCE* of March 10 and March 17, 1922. Dr. Henry S. Graves of Washington was elected vice-president for Section K for 1922. Dr. Frederick L. Hoffman, dean of the Babson Institute, Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts, was elected secretary; his term of office will expire January 1, 1925. An understanding was arrived at under which the section, during the current year, will concentrate its efforts especially upon conservation problems. The American Metric Association, which is associated with Section K, held sessions on Friday morning and Friday afternoon, December 29. During this session, nine papers were read and much discussion was had suggestive of the slow but gratifying progress of the metric movement. On Friday evening the Metric Association held its annual dinner, participated in by a small but thoroughly interested group of members.

FREDERICK L. HOFFMAN,
Secretary

WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS.

SECTION N—MEDICAL SCIENCES

SECTION N (Medical Sciences) held a symposium on the Health and Development of the Child. Professor A. B. MacCallum, of McGill University, presided. Dr. Joseph Erlanger of Washington University read his vice-presidential address on "The past and the future of the medical sciences," already published in *SCIENCE*, Vol. 55, page 135, February 10, 1922. The following papers were read:

Hereditary factor in development: C. B. DAVEN-

PORT, Cold Spring Harbor, L. I.

The metabolism of children in health and disease: HAROLD BAILEY, Cornell Medical School, New York.

Newer aspects in the dietetics of children: ALFRED HESS, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.

Movie demonstration of the tonsil-adenoid work in the city of Rochester, N. Y.: L. GOLER, Public Health Officer, Rochester, N. Y.

The mental hygiene of children: C. N. HINCKS, Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene.

The meeting took place in the Academy of Medicine, Toronto, which was crowded far beyond capacity. Throughout the symposium, there was a most interesting discussion of the papers.

The experience of the sectional committee during the last seven years has convinced it that its former policy, to have a discussion of a definite topic with invited papers, was timely, instructive, and interesting to the members of the association, to those working in medical sciences, and to the community.

There was, however, a growing feeling that the section should undertake to reach more effectively the investigators in the various fields allied to the medical sciences. It was felt that these workers require more than ever the stimulation that comes from discussion of papers by the workers in allied fields.

An informal meeting was called on December 28, at which representatives of medical workers, parasitologists, economic entomologists and biologists were present. The central question was how real and widespread was the need for such closer coordination of allied workers; how this coordination could be met without the formation of new groups.

There was a surprising unanimity of opinion of the desirability and the necessity of such closer coordination for mutual information and stimulation. It was decided to form no new groups. It was decided that the secretary of Section N, Medical Sciences, in consultation with the secretaries of the parasitologists, the two entomological societies and others, was to arrange a program in such a manner that it might be possible for the members of these related societies to attend a meeting held under

the auspices of Section N (Medical Sciences) with the minimum of conflicts; that Section N (Medical Sciences) should arrange an invitation program by representatives of the entomologists, the parasitologists, and medical workers, on topics of mutual interest. The opinion was definitely expressed that the specialists have so far transgressed the narrow limits of their respective fields that there is an increasing need of information and stimulation and exchange of views on the part of those working in allied fields; and finally, that the meeting of Section N (Medical Sciences) should be devoted primarily to the coordination of such allied workers.

This is a distinct departure from the policy of Section N in the past. If it should appear desirable to add to such a program, an additional program in the interest of the larger membership of the association, such a program shall be arranged.

It was also the consensus of opinion that once each year Section N (Medical Sciences) should hold a joint meeting with one of the national medical organizations or federations, so as to knit more closely the bonds between the American Association for the Advancement of Science and these other organizations. Such an arrangement already exists between the Federation of Experimental Biologists and Section N (Medical Sciences). It was proposed that once in every four years a joint meeting should be held between Section N (Medical Sciences) and the Anatomists, the Public Health Association, and the Bacteriologists.

Plans are now under way to make these suggestions effective. The secretary will appreciate suggestions and advice. This is no place to discuss the vexing problem of the relation of the sections, such as chemistry and engineering, and the large national organizations so loosely affiliated with the association, but the problem seems to be the same in all these instances, and any assistance to this complex problem will be appreciated by these and other groups who must plan the meetings for the coming years.

A. J. GOLDFARB,
Secretary