

While it was not possible to overcome all the difficulties existing by virtue of the important industrial considerations involved, very substantial progress was made. It is believed that the steps taken will lead immediately to a substantially increased amount of interchange of information during the earlier stages of standardization work, and that the way has been paved for a much more extensive interchange in the future.

Provision was made for continuing the work of the conference on the many administrative problems of common interest, through a loose-knit continuing organization. An example of such work planned by the conference is the translation of technical terms of special importance or difficulty in standardization work. There will gradually be built up such a vocabulary of technical terms, mainly in English, French and German, but supplemented as far as may be feasible and necessary by the corresponding terms in other languages. Another example is the work undertaken by the conference on the classification and nomenclature of standards.

The conference was attended by the following delegates:

AUSTRIA	
Austrian Standards Committee for Industry and Trade.....	Jaro Tomaides
BELGIUM	
Belgian Association for Standardization	G. L. Gerard
CANADA	
Canadian Engineering Standards Association	R. J. Durley
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	
Czechoslovakian Standards Society.....	B. Rosenbaum R. Matousch F. Kneidl
Masaryk Academy of Labor, Standards Committee.....	Jan. F. Kottland
FRANCE	
Permanent Committee for Standardization	Eug. Lemaire
GERMANY	
Standards Committee of German Industry	W. Hellmich
GREAT BRITAIN	
British Engineering Standards Association	C. Le Maistre
HOLLAND	
General Committee for Standardization in the Netherlands.....	J. Goudriaan
ITALY	
General Committee for Standardization in the Mechanical Industries.....	Renzo Curti
NORWAY	
Standardization Committee of the Norwegian Industrial Association	Alf. Erikson
SWEDEN	
Swedish Industrial Standardization Committee	Amos Kruse
Swedish Machine Industries Association	E. Fornander H. Törnebohm

SWITZERLAND

Standards Federation of the Association of Swiss Machine Industries H. Zollinger

UNITED STATES

American Engineering Standards Committee P. G. Agnew

THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY OF COLD SPRING HARBOR

On August 4, a meeting of residents of Long Island and a number of biologists, former workers at the Biological Laboratory, met at Blackford Hall, Cold Spring Harbor, to form a corporation to take over the Biological Laboratory from the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. The following are some of the Long Islanders who have joined the corporation: Frank L. Babbott, Robert Bacon, Dr. Richard Derby, Mr. Henry W. DeForest, Mr. Frank N. Doubleday, Dr. George Draper, Mrs. George S. Franklin, Theodore A. Havermyer, Henry Hicks, Dr. W. B. James, Walter Jennings, Mrs. Otto H. Kahn, R. C. Leffingwell, Nelson Lloyd, W. J. Matheson, Dr. Frank Overton, Mrs. C. C. Rumsey, Mortimer L. Schiff, Henry L. Stimson, John H. J. Stewart, Rosina C. Boardman and others. Among adhering biologists are: Bashford Dean, Harris H. Wilder, H. S. Pratt, A. F. Blakeslee, E. C. MacDowell, Sewall Wright, H. D. Fish, Ezra Allen, John T. Buchholz, L. C. Strong, L. A. Brown, James E. Peabody, Norman MacD. Grier, George B. Jenkins, George F. Sykes, William Smith, Gail H. Holliday, Emilia M. Vicari, E. N. Transeau and J. Walter Wilson. A board of managers composed of eight local members and the following biologists was organized: H. E. Walter, of Brown University; G. Clyde Fisher, American Museum of Natural History, New York; H. M. Parshley, Smith College; Duncan S. Johnson, The Johns Hopkins University; H. D. Fish, University of Pittsburgh; Professor W. W. Swingle, of Yale University, and C. B. Davenport. Steps have been taken to secure the transfer of the laboratory from the Brooklyn Institute to the Long Island Corporation. The board of managers nominated Mr. Reginald G. Harris to act as director for one year during the period of transfer.

DICTIONARY OF SPECIFICATIONS OF THE BUREAU OF STANDARDS

WORK has been started at the Bureau of Standards on the compilation of material for a dictionary or handbook of specifications for supplies purchased by federal, state and municipal governments and public institutions. This work grew out of a meeting held in May, 1923, of State Purchasing Agents from all over the country, and at which the cooperation of the various states was in this matter.

On July 11, a conference was held of various national organizations interested in the preparation and unification of purchase specifications and in their use from the point of view of both the producer and the consumer. This conference was called for the purpose of organizing an advisory committee to cooperate with the Department of Commerce and the National Conference of State Purchasing Agents in the work of formulating purchase standards, specifications and tests. Although no meeting of this advisory committee has yet been held, the various organizations represented are cooperating actively in the actual work of compiling the material for the dictionary, and a great deal of information has been supplied.

Correspondence conducted with the officers of trade associations and the purchasing agents of a large number of municipalities and public institutions has established the fact that all the individuals and groups for which the dictionary of specifications is being prepared will welcome its appearance enthusiastically and cooperate actively in the preparation.

A collection is now being made of all available specifications prepared by the various departments and independent establishments of the federal government and those used by state and municipal governments, public institutions, and the important national trade associations and technical societies. These specifications are being thoroughly card-indexed and classified. Care is being taken to pick out those specifications which are most urgently needed, and due consideration is being given to the attitude of purchasers and consumers toward the existing and the proposed specifications.

GEORGE K. BURGESS,
Director

THE LOS ANGELES MEETING

The progress of research on the Pacific Coast will be dealt with in an interesting series of papers to be presented at the Research Conference on September 17. The arrangement of this program is in the hands of the local committee which reports the following speakers and subjects:

PROFESSOR ERNEST C. WATSON, California Institute of Technology, on *Research Activities of the California Institute of Technology*.

F. B. SUMNER, Acting Director, Scripps Institution for Biological Research, on *The Scripps Institution*.

ACTING DEAN HERBERT J. WEBBER, University of California Agricultural Experiment Station, Riverside, on *The causes of variation in yield in citrus trees*.

DR. LAIRD J. STABLER, University of Southern California, on *Petroleum research*.

The forty-second regular meeting of the San Francisco section of the American Mathematical Society

will be held on Tuesday, September 18. Papers will be presented by Professor E. T. Bell, University of Washington; Professor Florian Cajori, University of California; Professor A. F. Carpenter, University of Washington; Dr. Paul H. Daus, University of California; Mr. H. P. Robertson, University of Washington; Dr. Victor Steed, University of Southern California; Professor Harry Bateman, California Institute of Technology, and others. A very interesting meeting is assured.

W. W. SARGEANT,
Secretary of the Pacific Division

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PENIKES SCHOOL

AUGUST the thirteenth was celebrated at the Wood's Hole Marine Biological Laboratory as the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Penikese school by Louis Agassiz. In commemoration of this school, a bronze tablet has been cast in duplicate with an inscription as follows: "In commemoration of the Anderson School of Natural History established fifty years ago on the Island of Penikese by Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz, born 1807—died 1873, the Marine Biological Laboratory, the direct descendant of the Penikese school, erects this tablet, 1923." The original tablet is to be placed on a boulder on the Island of Penikese, and the replica in the Marine Biological Laboratory.

The celebration consisted of speeches by three of the staff of the former Penikese school, Dr. David S. Jordan, Dr. Burt G. Wilder and Professor Edward S. Morse; by one of the former students of the school, Dr. Cornelia M. Clapp; by Professors Hermon C. Bumpus, E. G. Conklin and Frank S. Lillie. It was emphasized that it was Agassiz's methods rather than his conclusions which made him the "master teacher," that he taught his students to get their facts from nature and to think for themselves.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Academy of the Lincei at Rome has elected W. M. Davis, professor of geology, emeritus, at Harvard University, a foreign member in the class of physical, mathematical and natural sciences.

DR. HARVEY CUSHING, professor of surgery at the Harvard Medical School, has been elected a foreign corresponding member of the Paris Academy of Medicine.

At the eleventh International Physiological Congress meeting in Edinburgh on July 25 the following members were presented by Sir E. Sharpey Schafer for the honorary degree of doctor of laws: F. Bot-