

women graduates this year, 60 more than last year. Of all the women matriculants, 119 were in attendance at the one medical college for women, while 911 (88.4 per cent.) were matriculated in the 65 coeducational colleges. From the one women's college there were 21 graduates, while 193 (90.2 per cent.) secured their degree from coeducational colleges.

DISCUSSION ON ORGANIC ELECTRO-CHEMISTRY

Of particular interest to the electrochemist is the announcement of a round table discussion on organic electrochemistry to be held during the fall meeting of the American Electrochemical Society, in Dayton, Ohio, on September 27, 28 and 29. Professor Charles J. Thatcher will preside over the discussion.

The topics selected for discussion are:

1. *The Present Status of Organic Electrochemistry:*

This will comprise consideration of the Organic compounds now manufactured electrochemically, here and abroad, and the advantages of the electrolytic methods.

2. *The Future Development of Organic Electrochemistry:*

Discussion under this topic will comprise:

A—Enumeration of the Organic compounds which have been or are being investigated with a view to commercial production and announcement of forthcoming papers regarding such investigations.

B—A consideration of the more serious difficulties encountered, generally, in development of electrochemical processes for the manufacture of organic compounds, and of means whereby these difficulties may be overcome. This topic should bring out opinions as to the better type of cell and diaphragm for acid and alkaline electrolyses, and whether non-diaphragm cells are practical.

C—Discussion of fields for research and industrial developments and announcements of intended investigations to avoid duplication of work.

All members who are unable to be present at this discussion are invited to send in written communications which they desire read at the discussion, to the chairman of the committee, in care of the secretary of the society. There will be no stenographic record taken at this discussion.

THE LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION

THE last session of the Congress appropriated \$50,000 for the establishment of two new forest experiment stations, one in the Northeast and one in the Lake States. The headquarters of the Northeastern Station has been established at Amherst, Mass., in cooperation with the Amherst Agricultural College.

The headquarters of the Lake States Station will be in St. Paul, in cooperation with the University of Minnesota. This will be a regional station to take care of the forest problems arising in the Lake States region.

The projects of this station will include studies in reforestation, management, methods of cutting, slash disposal and other phases of forest growth and protection. Mr. Raphael Zon has been selected as the head of the new station.

Mr. Zon has been connected with the research work of the U. S. Forest Service for 22 years. He is editor of *The Journal of Forestry*, chairman of the Forestry Committee of the National Research Council, and is one of the veterans of the forestry profession in this country. He was graduated from Cornell University in 1901 and was the second forester to be graduated in the United States. He has always been especially interested in research problems; it was he who first started the experiment station idea in this country, and probably contributed more than any other forester to the development of the science of forestry. For many years forestry in the United States was entirely on an empirical basis. The Lake States Forest Experiment Station, and such other stations of the same character as the government has established and may establish in other places, is intended to assemble the necessary facts to place forestry on a firm scientific foundation.

Mr. Zon is already on the grounds and will soon be joined by four other members of his technical staff—J. A. Mitchell, Jos. Kittredge, H. Grossman and A. E. Wackerman.

E. G. CHEYNEY

INSURANCE OF THE RESULTS OF AN ECLIPSE EXPEDITION

ACCORDING to press reports a policy of \$10,000 against failure through weather conditions has been taken out by the Swarthmore University expedition to Yerbaniz, Mexico, where on September 10 photographs of the sun's eclipse will be taken.

This is said to be the first time that a scientific expedition has been insured. The policy was obtained by George H. Brooks, a Swarthmore alumnus, through the Home Insurance Company. The premium is \$500. It is doubtless the shortest term policy ever issued by a company, since it remains in force for two minutes and fifty-nine seconds, the time during which it will be possible to photograph the eclipse.

Explaining the decision of Swarthmore University to protect the expedition against the elements, Mr. Brooks wrote to the insurance company:

The photographs of the solar eclipse taken by the expedition, which is under the leadership of Dr. John A. Miller of Swarthmore University and head of the Sproul

observatory, will be of incalculable value to science if they can be secured. To equip such an expedition as this requires a large sum of money, and there is an ever present possibility of failure at the last moment should atmospheric conditions at the time be such as to affect the visibility and to make the taking of the photographs an impossibility.

To compensate for possible loss of time and money, and to enable future expeditions to carry on the work with the same funds until they are rewarded with success, the Swarthmore expedition desires to go to Mexico armed with insurance against those conditions over which they have no control.

The policy, which is written under the rain insurance form, provides:

If by reason of weather conditions affecting visibility only, or by vibration of instruments caused by winds in the State of Durango, Mexico, on Sept. 10, 1923, between 2:34:17 P. M. and 2:37:16 P. M., or thereabouts, standard time, the insured is prevented from taking photographs of scientific value of the eclipse of the sun, then this company shall be liable for and shall pay the amount set forth in the schedule below.

The schedule sets forth the description of the cameras used and the number of plates to be exposed. The policy provides further that the determination of the scientific value of the pictures shall be left to Professor George H. Peters, of the United States Naval Observatory, Washington, D. C. His findings are to be conclusive and binding upon both parties.

THE LIVERPOOL MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

THE ninety-first annual meeting of the British Association will be held at Liverpool from September 12 to 19. According to the *London Times* it promises to be larger than any of its predecessors, it being expected that between 3,000 and 3,500 persons will attend, of whom about 1,500 will be visitors. The last meeting in Liverpool was in 1896, when Sir Joseph Lister was the president. This year Sir E. Rutherford occupies that position, and the subject of his address will be the "Electrical structure of matter." There are thirteen sections, and five addresses by their presidents will be delivered on September 13, five on September 14 and three on September 17.

It has been the rule at many previous meetings for the British Association to devote particular attention to some branch of scientific study relevant to the town which it is visiting. Last year, at Hull, sea fisheries formed the subject for consideration; and this year geologists and geographers are making a special feature of subjects which are of local interest to Liverpool and district. Professor P. G. H. Boswell will open a discussion at the first meeting of the geological section on the "Geology of the Liverpool District," and Sir A. Strahan, ex-director of the Geological Sur-

vey, will discuss the "Geography of the Liverpool District from Pre-Glacial Times to the Present"; while in the geography section papers on "The Region around the Mersey and Dee Estuaries" will be submitted by Mr. W. Hewitt, Mr. H. King and Mr. K. C. Moore.

The association will be strong this year in the attendance of foreign representatives. Ten or a dozen leading Canadian scientists are going, and their presence may be regarded as having particular reference to the meeting of the association next year at Toronto and the arrangements that will be made by the general committee in relation thereto. There are altogether about thirty foreigners expected, mostly French and Danes. Among them are Professor Langevin, of Paris; Signor Conti, of Florence; Dr. Coster and Dr. Henesy, of Copenhagen; Dr. Roule, Paris; Professor Jespersen and Professor N. Bohr, of Copenhagen.

An addition to the program is an address by Dr. F. W. Aston, of Cambridge, who gave an "Atomic theory" lecture last year at Hull, on new matter which has been the result of his past year's work. In the Engineering and Psychology Sections discussions will take place on "Vocational tests for engineering trades." Afternoon meetings are said to be becoming a feature of increased importance. The committee has found that these fixtures are appreciated, and they have been fixed, therefore, for 5 o'clock, because people who cannot attend the meetings of the association during working hours can be present at that hour. These addresses will be given by Dr. G. H. Miles on "Vocational Guidance"; Dr. C. S. Grundy on "Teaching Music to Children," with an orchestral demonstration; Dr. Schmidt on "The Dana expeditions and their work on the life-history of the eel."

On Tuesday evening, the eighteenth, a scientific *soirée* will be given at the Liverpool University. This is a new feature, and is on the lines of the Royal Society's *soirées* in Burlington House, Piccadilly, with demonstrations and short lectures. Another feature is the scientific exhibition, which will be run by the Liverpool authorities, at which a large number of scientific instrument makers will be the exhibitors.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Pan-Pacific Scientific Congress, in which fourteen nations are represented, was opened at Melbourne on August 13, with the presidential address by Sir David O. Masson.

DR. EDGAR F. SMITH, provost emeritus of the University of Pennsylvania and past-president of the American Chemical Society, has been made an Officer of the Legion of Honor of France. The insignia