taneously with the originals shown during the address itself in the Philharmonic Hall. The address was well heard in most parts of the British Isles, and was even picked up so far away as Switzerland. This is, indeed, an example of the development of physical science since the last Liverpool meeting held in 1896.

The place of the customary second evening lecture was taken by a most successful scientific soirée given by the local committee at the university. A wonderful series of experimental and other exhibits had been arranged and a most comprehensive program had been prepared, but unfortunately, owing to the awkward lay-out of the university buildings, it must have been nearly impossible for very many of the large and enthusiastic gathering to see properly one half of all the interesting things on view or to hear many of the excellent series of lecturettes. Such a soirée, however, is full of value and was greatly appreciated, and the excellence of all the arrangements at it reflected the greatest credit on all those concerned in its organization.

EXPEDITION FOR THE STUDY OF TROPICAL DISEASES IN SAMOA

ACCORDING to the London correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association a new expedition to the tropics for the study of disease is about to start for Samoa under the auspices of the London School of Tropical Medicine. Its main object is the study of filariasis, which affects eighty-five per cent. of the natives of the Pacific Islands. The expedition will be under the direction of Dr. Buxton, a fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, who is well known for his work in entomology, performed in Mesopotamia during the war, and later as entomologist for the Palestine government in Jerusalem. The expedition will be away for two years and will have its headquarters at Apia. It will work in cooperation with the New Zealand government, which is responsible for the administration of the Samoan group. It is thought that the susceptibility of the Polynesians to disease, especially to tuberculosis, and the decline of their numbers to the extent of threatened extinction, may be due to filariasis. Infection seems to be due to a *Stegomyia* mosquito which is apparently confined to the Pacific Islands. An attempt will be made to eliminate the disease by exterminating the mosquito on lines similar to those that were adopted in Panama and other places. It is thought that the problem is comparatively simple, as the mosquito lives in and around coconut trees and is found in the empty coconut shells, which are stacked in the making of copra. It is proposed to take over a small island a mile or so in diameter, where every breeding place of the mosquito will be effectively dealt with. The native method of storing water is in artificially hollowed coconut trees. It is proposed to substitute, for these, properly constructed cisterns. Moreover, the mosquito does not seem able to exist where the dense undergrowth has been properly cut down. If airways or rides are cut through the dense jungle and the insect is exposed to the trade winds of the Pacific, it may be blown away. An object lesson of this kind can then be applied to the larger islands. Other parasitic diseases prevalent in Samoa, particularly ancylostomiasis, will also be studied. Finally, the effects of the tropical climate on Europeans will be investigated more minutely than has been done previously. The finer methods available since the recent development of biochemistry will be used. Thus, the effect of the sun's rays on the human skin will be investigated with the catathermometer. As an expert ornithologist and entomologist, Dr. Buxton also hopes to bring back a collection of birds and insects (many of which are becoming extinct) for the British Museum.

THE ADJUSTMENT OF AUTOMOBILE HEADLIGHTS

THE Bureau of Standards is conducting work on the better adjustment of automobile headlights. In addition to that carried out locally in the District of Columbia, the bureau is sponsoring a national movement to secure headlight adjustment. A representative of the bureau emphasized the importance of the member club activity in this matter at a meeting of officials of the National Motorists Association in Cleveland, September 20, 21 and 22. This association and the American Automobile Association, as well as all similar organizations, are in a particularly favorable position to place before motorists the necessity for headlight adjustment. The problem has also been discussed in the broadcasting programs which the American Automobile Association sends out through radio station WRC.

The National Automobile Chamber of Commerce is calling the attention of motor car manufacturers to the necessity of closer supervision of their dealer and service activities so that the two or three million new cars turned out annually will have properly adjusted headlights. The Motor and Accessory Manufacturers' Association has made a similar offer to get in touch with headlight manufacturers to insure the furnishing with all headlight devices of simple and adequate instructions for their adjustment. The Society of Automotive Engineers is giving active support through its Standards Committee, particularly along the lines of standardizing and improving headlight construction.

If all headlights could be focused in the same manner, this would simplify the instructions required and facilitate adjustment. In fact, any action taken which may make adjustment easier will be a step forward.

All the national associations approached have

stated that they would actively back a national campaign for headlight adjustment, and some states already have such campaigns under way. Action of this sort should be given all possible support, since proper road lighting will not only reduce the number of accidents, but will make night driving more agreeable. If headlights are adjusted now, a mass of restrictive legislation will be avoided later on.

PROFESSOR COOLEY AND THE ENGINEERING COUNCIL

THE resignation of Mortimer E. Cooley, dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture of the University of Michigan, as president of the American Engineering Council of the Federated American Engineering Societies, was announced at the opening session of a two-day meeting of the Executive Board of the Council held in Rochester, N. Y., October 12.

Dean Cooley, in presenting his resignation to the board, said that he retires on account of ill health. He also made it known that he has been granted leave of absence by the University of Michigan for the second half of the academic year 1923–1924. The executive board adopted a resolution expressing regret that Dean Cooley is forced by ill health to relinquish the presidency of the Federation. The resolution, the adoption of which followed the expression of tributes by leading members of the board, and which was in the nature of an address to Dean Cooley, follows:

Every member of the Executive Board of the American Engineering Council whose deliberations you have led and guided for the past two years listened with the deepest regret to your announcement of the necessity of laying down the duties of the office of president of the Federated American Engineering Societies at the close of this year. Could any reassurance of our support of you and your policies have changed that decision, such assurance would have been at once unanimously tendered.

You took the responsibilities and burdens of our leadership at a most trying hour and in our behalf you have sacrificed both time and health.

With a life-time already devoted to the unification and upbuilding of our profession, you were our outstanding choice to assume the responsibilities of the guidance of our policies. Our faith in you has been more than justified. Coming to us at a time when our organization was almost unknown and of little influence, through your personal prestige and because of your clear vision of the possibilities of service and achievement by a united profession, the Federated Societies have now reached an unassailable position of dignity, respect and public confidence.

For all this and for the steadfastness with which you have revealed your vision to us and to our profession, we thank you.

Though consoled by your promise to still be with the work of the Federated Societies, we shall miss your leadership and something more. Your geniality has been infectious, your sense of humor has relieved many a potentially critical situation, your optimism has brushed aside many difficulties, but above all your personality has drawn us to you and inspired affection. And we shall always be eager for your advice and counsel.

SOCIETIES MEETING AT CINCINNATI

THE following named societies have informed the Washington office of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that they will hold sessions at the approaching Cincinnati meeting, next convocation week. The names and addresses of their secretaries are also given below:

American Mathematical Society (Chicago Section)
Arnold Dresden, 2114 Vilas St., Madison, Wis.

Mathematical Association of America
W. D. Cairns, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.

American Physical Society
Harold W. Webb, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

American Meteorological Society
Charles F. Brooks, Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

Association of American Geographers
Richard E. Dodge, Connecticut Agricultural College, Storrs, Conn.

National Council of Geography Teachers
George J. Miller, State Teachers College, Mankato, Minn.

American Society of Zoologists
W. C. Allee, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

Entomological Society of America
C. L. Metcalf, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.

American Association of Economic Entomologists
Albert F. Burgess, Melrose Highlands, Mass.

Wilson Ornithological Club
Gordon Wilson, 1434 Chestnut St., Bowling Green, Ky.

Botanical Society of America
I. F. Lewis, University, Va.

American Phytopathological Society
R. J. Haskell, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

American Society of Naturalists
A. Franklin Shull, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Ecological Society of America
A. O. Weese, James Millikin University, Decatur, Ill.

American Microscopical Society
Paul S. Welch, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

American Nature-Study Society
Anne Botsford Comstock, 123 Roberts Place, Ithaca, N. Y.

Metric Association
Howard Richards, 156 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

American Society of Agronomy
P. E. Brown, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

American Society for Horticultural Science
C. P. Close, College Park, Md.

Potato Association of America
William Stuart, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.