

parture in the American scheme is proposed, however, made necessary by the vastness of the country. In addition to the central collection at Washington special collections such as replicas of the historical exhibits will be carried to the people, also the machinery of modern processes will be placed in affiliated museums in industrial centers of every state.

Incorporation was effected in March last under the laws of the District of Columbia by the "Organizing Committee of 100" composed of chairmen of boards of directors, presidents and chief engineers of industries and railroads, and professors of engineering and history in universities and colleges.

### HELMHOLTZ'S PHYSIOLOGICAL OPTICS

It is announced that the first volume of the English translation of Helmholtz's *Handbuch der Physiologischen Optik*, prepared under the editorship of Professor Southall, of Columbia University, and published by the Optical Society of America, is now ready for distribution. The importance of this work as one of the monuments of scientific creation is universally recognized, but this translation is inspired by a realization of its present value to scientific workers and not merely of its historical significance. Although of course many things in it have become antiquated, there are also many that have been overlooked or neglected, and whose value has not been diminished by subsequent research. Moreover, there is no other book, nor even any combination of books, in which anything comparable to it as a conspectus of the whole subject can be found.

In selecting for translation the third (and latest) edition, 1909-10, the editor has in large measure been influenced by the incorporation in that edition of most valuable appendices by v. Kries, Nagel and Gullstrand; and besides these appendices the English translation will include (in the first volume) an entirely new chapter on ophthalmoscopy taken from Professor Gullstrand's *Einführung in die Methoden der Dioptrik des Auges des Menschen*. Since, on the other hand, the third edition (based by v. Kries and Nagel on the first) omitted the very important work of König, done in direct development of Helmholtz's ideas and incorporated in the second edition, this phase of the subject is briefly treated in an appendix (to appear in the second volume) by Christine Ladd-Franklin, which will also contain a critical examination of the Helmholtz and Hering theories of color vision and a concise exposition of her own theory. The time of the publication of the second and third volumes is not yet fixed. The edition is limited to one thousand copies. Orders should be placed with F. K. Richtmyer, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

### THE SECTION OF PHYSIOLOGY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

OVERSEA members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science coming to the Toronto meeting, beginning August 6, include the following:

*President of Section I*—H. H. Dale, head of the department of biochemistry and pharmacology, Medical Research Council, London. Former director of the Wellcome Physiological Research Laboratories. His presidential address will deal with "Progress and prospects in chemotherapy."

*Vice-president*—G. H. F. Nuttall, Quick professor of biology, Cambridge. Editor and founder of the *Journal of Hygiene* and the *Journal of Parasitology*.

*Recorder*—Dr. C. Lovatt Evans, of the department of physiology, St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, London, will discuss "The physiology of muscular contraction in relation to efficiency and fatigue."

*Secretary*—E. P. Cathcart, Gardiner professor of chemical physiology, University of Glasgow, and adviser in physiology to the War Office, will deliver a paper on the "Respiratory quotient," and a popular lecture on "Seeing is believing" and will discuss "Energy exchange in relation to muscular performance in laboratory investigations."

J. H. Burn, of the biochemistry department of the Medical Research Council, London, will speak on "The factors controlling the normal output of sugar from the liver."

S. Monckton Copeman, medical officer, Ministry of Health.

J. C. Drummond, of University College, London, will give a popular lecture on the "Importance of the infinitely small in nutrition," and will speak also on "Modern tendencies of vitamin research."

Sir Henry Gauvain, medical superintendent to Lord Mayor Treloar's Cripples' Hospital and College, will discuss light therapy in the symposium on "Vitamines and the relation of light to their action."

E. Mellanby, St. Thomas Hospital, London.

J. S. Owens.

Sir J. Herbert Parsons, surgeon of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, optical surgeon in University College Hospital and a member of various government committees.

H. E. Roaf, professor of physiology, London Hospital Medical College, will give papers on "Color vision" and on "Urinary pigments."

Alfred Herbert Tubby, consulting surgeon, especially on diseases of children.

### THE EDWARD HART CELEBRATION AT LAFAYETTE COLLEGE

DR. EDWARD HART has now completed fifty years of service in connection with the chemistry department of Lafayette College and it is proposed to cele-