

of Tanners Council and the American Leather Chemists Association were welcomed by Dr. Frederick C. Hicks, president of the University of Cincinnati. In the absence of Secretary Hoover, Dr. Martin H. Fischer spoke on the significance of this undertaking. He was followed by Dr. J. S. Rogers, president of the American Leather Chemists Association. President Fraser M. Moffat, of Tanners Council, then presented the laboratory to the University of Cincinnati and it was accepted on behalf of the directors by President Hicks.

In the three-story brick building there are laboratories well equipped for fundamental research on all phases of leather. The large staff laboratories are supplemented by smaller ones for students who have qualified themselves to do special work. The whole undertaking is an example of cooperative fundamental research fostered by an industrial association.

LABORATORY FOR THE STUDY OF THE PHILOLOGICAL SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

DR. A. R. MORRIS, of the department of rhetoric in the University of Michigan, has sent the following communication to Professor Alfred H. Lloyd, dean of the graduate school of the university:

I am directed to report to you the action of a conference of representatives of seven departments held yesterday to consider plans for mobilizing resources in the interest of laboratory study of phonetics, philology and language form. The movement grows out of a proposal made last December before the Philological Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science by Professor Cottrell. The suggestion seemed so timely that it ought not go unrealized.

To meet the needs of philologists not provided with laboratories, it was suggested that a laboratory be established, somewhere in the country, equipped to make records for all comers. Such a laboratory adequately fitted and manned involves greater expense than any institution is just now in a position to meet. Until a way is found through the National Research Council or otherwise to provide such facilities, or until some other feasible plan is worked out, it seemed that something might be done immediately in this direction by pooling the laboratory resources of equipment and personnel. After some preliminary conferences seven departments have taken steps to pool their resources and to offer their combined equipment to any one wishing to make speech records for analysis. By this combination we should be able soon to provide facilities for recording by any of the methods so far developed and to provide material assistance in the analysis of curves for the study of tone quality.

The seven departments cooperating are psychology, physics, rhetoric, physiology, phonetics, mathematics and public speaking. Our proposal is, perhaps, only a stop-gap to serve until something better is developed, but so far as this plan can be made to advance the laboratory

study of linguistic problems these seven departments are glad to offer their services.

CHEMISTRY AT THE WASHINGTON MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

AN interesting program will be presented to the chemists at the Washington meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, beginning on Tuesday, December 30, at 10 A. M. The meeting is under the auspices of the Washington and other eastern sections of the American Chemical Society and Section C of the association, but all chemists and others interested are invited to attend.

The address of the retiring vice-president of the association, Dr. E. W. Washburn, editor of the *International Critical Tables*, will be presented on Wednesday afternoon on the subject "Some effects of the weather upon physical measurements."

A symposium on X-rays in chemistry has been arranged, and will probably be held on Thursday afternoon. Dr. Arthur H. Compton will present an illustrated paper on X-rays and their scattering by electrons; Dr. Ralph W. Wyckoff, of the Geophysical Laboratory, will consider the topic "X-rays and crystal structure"; Dr. W. P. Davey, of the General Electric Company, will talk on "Atomic and ionic radii," and Dr. George L. Clark, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will give a paper on "The versatility of x-rays."

A few of the other papers to be presented are listed below:

Illustrated lecture on gels and colloids, H. N. Holmes, Oberlin College.

European laboratories, W. A. Noyes, University of Illinois.

Excited atoms, K. T. Compton, Princeton University.

New aspects of some fundamental properties of matter, Eugene C. Bingham, Lafayette College.

A method of establishing a potential gradient for organic radicals, M. S. Kharasch, University of Maryland.

The electronic conception of adsorption from the standpoint of gels, Neil E. Gordon, University of Maryland.

Some causes of volcanic activity, A. L. Day, Geophysical Laboratory.

The interpretation of band spectra, Robert S. Mulliken, Harvard University.

The relation between the static and the dynamic concepts of the atom, Harold C. Urey, Johns Hopkins University.

Influence of sulphur on the color of dyes, E. Emmet Reid, Johns Hopkins University.

Electric moments of molecules, Charles P. Smythe, Princeton University.

Catalysis in homogeneous systems, F. O. Rice, Johns Hopkins University.

Methods for the determination of densities, M. Haring, University of Maryland.

The present status of thermochemical data, F. Russell Bishowsky, Johns Hopkins University.

The status of the electron in the teaching of chemistry, Neil E. Gordon, University of Maryland.

Errors in experimental work as illustrated by determinations of surface tension, T. F. Young and W. D. Harkins, University of Chicago.

The complete program will be published later.

On Tuesday afternoon the chemists will meet with the physicists and the astronomers.

Hotel Raleigh has been chosen as headquarters for the chemists.

WILLIAM D. HARKINS,
Secretary of Section C

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. K. T. COMPTON, professor of physics in Princeton University, has been elected chairman of Section B (Physics) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and association vice-president for that section, to fill the place left vacant by the death of Dr. Ernest Fox Nichols.

DR. WILLIAM F. DURAND, professor emeritus of mechanical engineering in Leland Stanford University, was installed as president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers on December 2. Vice-presidents chosen for the coming year are Sherwood F. Jeter, of Hartford, Conn.; Professor Robert W. Angus, of Toronto, and Thomas L. Wilkinson, of Davenport, Ia.

DR. HUGH K. MOORE, director of research, the Brown Company, Berlin, N. H., has been awarded the Perkin Medal for 1924 in recognition of his chemical engineering attainments in the fields of salt, sulphur and cellulose. It will be presented at the meeting of the New York section of the Society of Chemical Industry on February 6.

DR. CHARLES S. SARGENT, director of the Arnold Arboretum, has been awarded the Lodor Rhododendron Cup of the Royal Horticultural Society of England.

THE first presentation of the new Holley Medal of The American Society of Mechanical Engineers has been made to Hjalmar Gorrfried Carlson, of Worcester, Mass., "for his invention and processes which made possible the timely production of drawn steel booster castings for artillery ammunition, thereby aiding victory in the World War."

IN connection with the annual meeting of the Indiana Academy of Sciences, held at Purdue University on December 5, a dinner was given in honor of Dr. J. C. Arthur and Dean Stanley Coulter. Addresses were given by Dr. John Merle Coulter, of the University of Chicago, and Dr. William Trelease, of the University of Illinois.

RAMON Y. CAJAL, professor of histology at the University of Madrid, has had conferred upon him an honorary degree by the University of Paris.

PROFESSOR C. F. CURTIS RILEY, connected with the department of zoology at the University of Manitoba, formerly of Syracuse University, New York, has been elected a fellow of the Entomological Society of London.

THE Langley Memorial Prize of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine has been awarded to Dr. P. S. Selwyn-Clarke, of the West African Medical Service, for his monograph on small-pox in the negro and negroid tribes of British West Africa.

PROFESSOR FRANCIS VEJDOVSKY, senior of Czech zoologists, and formerly professor at Czech University in Prague, celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on October 24.

EDOUARD BRADLEY, pioneer French worker in wireless telegraphy, celebrated his eightieth birthday on November 8.

PROFESSOR ETHAN ALLEN SHAW, for twenty-five years professor of mathematics at Norwich University, will retire at the close of the present semester.

M. ALBIN HALLER, professor of organic chemistry, and M. Joannis, professor of chemistry at the University of Paris, have retired.

PROFESSOR A. BIEHL has retired from the Astrophysical Observatory at Potsdam, having reached the age limit, and Dr. Baron von der Pahlen has been appointed to take his place.

It is announced that Dr. Aldo Castellani, director of the department of tropical medicine at the Ross Institute, London, has been offered the directorship of the new School of Tropical Medicine at Tulane University, New Orleans.

PROFESSOR M. DOELLO-JURADO, of the University of Buenos Aires, has been appointed director of the National Museum of Natural History at Buenos Aires.

MARTIN FROBISHER, JR., for the past three years with the Maryland State Health Department, has been appointed chief, division of chemistry, Baltimore City Health Department.

C. E. BALES, who is president of the Louisville Section of the American Chemical Society, has been made assistant manager, in charge of production, at the Louisville Fire Brick Works.

UPON invitation from Dr. A. A. Noyes, Dr. J. J. Abel, professor of pharmacology at the Johns Hopkins University, has gone to the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena to try to isolate the active principle in insulin by methods used on pituitary extract. Dr. E. M. K. Geiling, of the university, ac-