

doubt that the general principle of the uniformity of nature applies here and that the stars of non-galactic nebulae are the same sort of bodies with which we are familiar in our local system. But the most important feature is in the background of the paper, the uncovering of targets for the heavy artillery of methods for stellar investigation.

The author's abstract of the paper presented at the meeting is as follows: "On photographs made with the 100-inch and 60-inch reflectors of the Mount Wilson Observatory, the outer regions of the two spirals M 31 and M 33 are resolved into dense swarms of actual stars. Many of these stars are variable and of the variables a large percentage are Cepheids. Normal curves, periods and photographic magnitudes have been determined for 22 Cepheids in M 33 and 12 in M 31. The magnitudes at maximum run from 18.1 to 19.1 and the periods from 18 to 50 days. The period-luminosity relation is conspicuously present. The distances, as derived from Shapley's period-luminosity curve, are the same for both nebulae—about 285,000 parsecs. Variables have also been found in M 81, M 101 and N. G. C. 2403, but nothing is known as yet of their periods."—B. E. L.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL TABLES

DR. CHARLES MARIE, general secretary of the International Commission charged with the compilation and publication of "International Annual Tables of Constants and Numerical Data, Physical, Chemical and Technological," announces the publication of Volume 5, Part 1. This volume gives all numerical data which characterize any substance, material or system which are to be found in the world's literature for the period of 1917–1922, inclusive, and covers the sciences of physics, chemistry, mineralogy, biology and the various branches of technology. Owing to the large volume of modern scientific literature, these volumes will be of great value to scientific men having occasion to use numerical data. The volumes give not only the data as they appear in the original literature, but also the corresponding literature reference for every value recorded.

This international undertaking is carried on without profit and is made possible by the financial support of governments, scientific societies and educational institutions which contribute to the international fund. Members of scientific organizations and of the faculties of universities which help in this way to make possible the compilation of annual tables are accorded a special discount on purchases of these volumes. The volumes are distributed in the United States through the University of Chicago

Press. The following is a list of American contributors to the international fund:

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New Jersey Zinc Company

E. W. WASHBURN,
American Commissioner

THE THIRD ASIATIC EXPEDITION OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE members of the Third Asiatic Expedition of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, sailed from San Francisco on the *President Lincoln* on March 7 for China. This is the largest scientific expedition ever sent out by the museum. The party sails to meet Roy Chapman Andrews, leader of the Third Asiatic Expedition, to commence its third year's work in China and Mongolia. The personnel of the party is as follows:

Walter Granger, paleontologist and second in command.

Dr. Charles P. Berkey, geologist, professor of geology at Columbia University.

Frederick Morris, assistant geologist, previously of Columbia University and Peking University in Tientsin.

Major L. B. Roberts, topographer, member of United States aerial mapping force in France during the war, Resident of Kansas City.

Dr. Ralph W. Chaney, botanist and paleobotanist of Carnegie Institution of Washington.