estry, who will also study the part played by insects in the disintegration and disappearance of logging slash and of the possible danger of breeding insects injurious to living trees in such slash. Cooperation between the Forest Experiment Station and the Maine Forest Service in studies of the spruce budworm and other destructive forest insects will be continued.

Dr. Perley Spaulding, a graduate of the University of Vermont and a member of the Office of Forest Pathology in the Bureau of Plant Industry, will be assigned to the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station for the studies of tree diseases. Dr. Spaulding's investigations will stress particularly the chestnut blight, which has destroyed immense quantities of chestnut trees in the northeastern states, and which is now present throughout practically the entire range of chestnut. His studies will be directed particularly to the location and propagation of all trees which are apparently more or less immune to or are able to recover from the effects of the blight. It is hoped that certain blight-resistant individuals may be found from which it will eventually be possible to reforest areas where the chestnut has been destroyed with trees that are able to withstand the disease. Chestnut has been so important a source of fence posts, telephone poles, railroad ties and tannin extract, as well as a general utility farm timber, that it is exceedingly important to make every effort to save it from complete extermination. Dr. Spaulding's activities will also include, so far as time permits, studies of the white pine blister rust and of the decay of logging slash of different kinds of trees and under different conditions.

SIGMA XI AND THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A NOTABLE event in the history of science took place on April 2 with the installation of a Sigma Xi Chapter at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena. The installation ceremony was conducted by the national president, Dr. F. K. Richtmyer, who came to California for this purpose. The charter membership includes forty-one members of the institute staff, twenty-three graduate students and eighteen members of the Mount Wilson Observatory staff. The following officers were elected for the new chapter:

R. A. Millikan, *President.*
A. A. Noyes, *Vice-president.*
W. N. Lacey, *Secretary.*
R. W. Sorensen, *Treasurer.*

Following the installation ceremonies a dinner was served to 250 alumni of Sigma Xi, and responses were made by J. C. Shedd, president of the Sigma Xi Alumni Association of Southern California; W. L. Hardin, past president of the Sigma Xi Alumni Association; Dr. D. C. Miller, president of the American Physical Society, and Dr. P. Debeye, of Zurich, Switzerland.

At the close of the dinner a notable address was given by Professor Richtmyer, before an appreciative audience, on the subject of "Some aspects of X-ray work." The lecture was illustrated with apparatus furnished through the courtesy of the General Electric Company.

JOHN C. SHEDD,
National Secretary, pro tem.

THIRD NATIONAL COLLOID SYMPOSIUM

THE provisional program of the Third National Colloid Symposium at the University of Minnesota, to be held on June 17, 18 and 19, is as follows. Dr. Harry N. Holmes is chairman of the symposium.

Molecular weight and solution: W. D. BANCROFT, Cornell University.

Some new aspects of the surface tension of colloidal solutions which have led to the determination of molecular dimensions: LECOMTE DU NOÜY, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

The orientation and distribution of molecules: IRVING LANGMUIR, General Electric Company.

Photographic sensitivity: S. E. SHEPPARD, Eastman Kodak Company.

Adsorption: DR. FREUNDLICH.

Catalysis by Metallized Silica Gels: L. H. RYERSON, University of Minnesota.

Colloidal water and ice: HOWARD T. BARNES, McGill University.

Colloidal chemistry of rennet coagulation: L. S. PALMER, University of Minnesota.

The viscosity of protoplasm: L. V. HEILBRUNN, University of Michigan.

Antigenic properties of bacterial toxins neutralized by surface tension depressants: W. P. LARSON, R. S. EVANS, H. O. HALVERSON, University of Minnesota Medical School.

Physico-chemical studies on blood coagulation: I. N. KUGELMASS, Yale University Medical School.

The effect of anions on the colloidal and chemical properties of aluminum hydroxide: LEWIS B. MILLER, U. S. Public Health Service.

The nature of soil colloids: PHILIP L. GILE, U. S. Bureau of Soils, Washington, D. C.

The colloid chemistry of soils: E. TRUOG, University of Wisconsin.

Soil water: F. J. ALWAY, Division of Soils, University of Minnesota.

Colloids in geology: W. J. MEAD, University of Wisconsin.

Lithopones: C. A. MANN, University of Minnesota.

The plasticity problems of rubber: W. J. KELLY, Goodyear Rubber Co.

An experimental study of emulsification on the basis