

usefulness. The second Decennial Index, because it will cover a period more active chemically, should be even more useful. To help in making the project possible by entering an advance subscription order will not only be a good investment as a personal time saver and from a strictly financial point of view (the few remaining sets of the first Decennial Index are selling at double the original price), but also it will be a good investment in service to chemistry, more particularly to chemistry in America (the foreign abstract journals regularly publish collective indexes). Most scientists are anxious to aid the cause of science, realizing as they do that science is a good servant of humanity. Those of us responsible for *Chemical Abstracts* like to think that the journal plays an essential rôle in the development of chemistry. The success of this second Decennial Index project is of vital importance to the future of *Chemical Abstracts*.

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#### THE ORTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY OF GEOLOGY

IN 1916 General Edward Orton, Jr., generously proposed to the board of trustees of the Ohio State University to establish a library of geology in memory of his father, Dr. Edward Orton, the first president and the first professor of geology in the institution. Accordingly the trustees designated two rooms in Orton Hall for that purpose, and under General Orton's direction they were transformed into beautiful quarters, and the library was opened November 1, 1917.

It was thought that the rooms would be adequate for a long time, but in a few years stack room became scarce. General Orton then offered to equip larger quarters in Orton Hall if space could be found. Finally the commodious room with balcony which for years in large part housed the university library was offered. This was thoroughly remodeled and handsomely furnished. The shelves, tables and cases not only meet the best library demands, but they are very pleasing to the eye. Over the shelves hang oil paintings of geological scenes. Among these are a Moran of the Petrified Forest, a Bierstadt of Old Faithful and a Vollweider of the Alps. The new library was ready for use on January 5.

The books number about 11,000 and include many of the largest and most important sets published here and abroad. They include the university collection, the State Geological Survey exchanges, the library of the late Professor Charles S. Prosser and numerous volumes from the library of Dr. Orton. For the past

five years General Orton has supplied \$500 annually for the purchase of books. Volumes donated are bound by the state without expense to the library.

Under such favorable conditions the collection, of course, is growing rapidly. Stack room for perhaps 25,000 is provided, and by connection with a room below at least 50,000 volumes can be housed. It is a library not only for the Ohio State University, but for all the geologists of Ohio.

#### HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTION

AT the centenary celebration of Faraday's discovery of benzene held at the Royal Institution on June 16, the new honorary members were introduced by the secretary, Sir Arthur Keith, in the following words:

Gabriel Émile Bertrand, professor of biological chemistry at the Sorbonne, Paris, and director of the laboratory of biological chemistry at the Institut Pasteur. Professor Bertrand is distinguished as an inquirer into bacterial activity, particularly in connection with oxidation phenomena, of which he has made a special study. He has also paid great attention to the influence of minute quantities of metals not usually regarded as acting upon the course of vital change.

Ernst Julius Cohen, professor of general chemistry and inorganic chemistry in the University of Utrecht, Holland. Professor Cohen is an acknowledged leader in physical chemistry, the biographer in England of his master, Van't Hoff, and like him, a devoted student of Byron.

Piero Ginori-Conti, senatore, president of the Associazione Italiana de Chimica, Generale ed Applicata, Rome. Prince Ginori-Conti has acquired distinction by capturing natural steam and using it as a source of energy, at the same time extracting from it large quantities of boric acid. He manufactures perborates from this latter by Faraday's method of electrolytic oxidation.

James Flack Norris, professor of organic chemistry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and secretary of the American National Research Council. Professor Norris is president of the American Chemical Society, a constituency of 15,000 chemists. He is professor in the most noted of American technical schools, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and himself a well-known original worker.

Joji Sakurai, president of the Japanese National Research Council, emeritus professor of the Imperial University of Tokyo, Japan, and member of the Japanese House of Peers. Professor Sakurai was a student under the late Professor A. Williamson at University College, London, one of the first small band of Japanese students who came to Europe to acquire a knowledge of western science. Working upon foundations laid by the late Professor Divers, he has long been noted as the inspiring mind in Japanese chemistry. A founder of the National Research Council of Japan, he is now actively engaged in promoting the application of science generally in his country.