

visiting staff . . . to whom he had endeared himself by his devotion to the division, and his spirit of justice in the management of its affairs."

Outstanding characteristics are noted in the inscription below: "A staunch friend of humanity, a devotee to duty, an able surgeon and executive, and a man of kindly presence."

It is in such terms that we well recall to mind our former colleague, Tom Smith.

Tom Smith, a man whom children loved.

Let us say, our ever faithful friend, Tom Smith.

The fourth division now takes pleasure in tendering this memorial tablet into the keeping of the trustees of Bellevue Hospital.

WILLIAM C. LUSK

NEW YORK, N. Y.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PLANT SCIENCES

INVESTIGATORS and teachers in the plant sciences, representing all aspects of botany, plant chemistry, plant pathology and bacteriology, agronomy, horticulture and forestry, are invited to attend the International Congress of Plant Sciences (Fourth International Botanical Congress) to be held at Ithaca, August 16-23, 1926. This invitation is extended to all countries of the world. An announcement of the meeting was printed in *SCIENCE* for November 6, 1925.

This congress is scheduled to follow the usual academic sessions abroad, also the short summer session of the various universities and colleges in the United States. It is believed to offer the first opportunity ever arranged in the United States for a general conference of all those professionally engaged in plant work. It possesses the additional compelling interest accruing from unrestricted international representation.

In order that a part of the program may be representative of outstanding leadership, the congress will be divided into about one dozen sections, each section with an invitation program occupying about four morning sessions or a little more than one fourth of the available time. These formal programs will be supplemented by another feature that promises also to be of exceptional interest. Ample time will be set apart for round table or informal discussions, which in some cases may be scheduled in advance, and in others may be arranged both as to topics and participation after the congress actually convenes. This is intended to provide for the widest participation in sectional activities. Supplementary opportunities for individual contact and participation are made possible through the non-commercial exhibits and through the

provision for excursions and inspection tours of various types suited to the diverse needs of the different sections.

Although the congress is not to provide an occasion for *legislation* on regulatory matters of international significance (such as nomenclatorial rules) the organizing committee has expressly provided that "adequate opportunity shall be accorded all sections for the *discussion* of regulatory recommendations of international significance," in order that a better understanding may be reached for definite action at a subsequent international congress.

The sections thus far authorized and the secretaries representing these groups is contained in *SCIENCE* for November 6. Communications regarding the congress should be addressed as indicated below:

(1) Concerning round tables and other strictly sectional matters—to the appropriate sectional secretary.

(2) Concerning exhibits and general program matters—L. W. Sharp, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

(3) Concerning excursions, collecting trips, inspection tours, local arrangements, transportation, etc.—H. H. Whetzel, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

(4) Concerning the congress in general.—B. M. Duggar, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo.

THE ASSOCIATION OF ASPHALT PAVING TECHNOLOGISTS

THE Association of Asphalt Paving Technologists met on January 14, 1926, in the Hotel LaSalle, Chicago. The constitution and by-laws were adopted, officers were elected and committees were appointed. Forty members were present.

In January, 1924, a small group met in Chicago informally for the purpose of discussing such an organization. In January, 1925, a considerably larger group met in Chicago and definitely organized. Francis P. Smith, of Dow & Smith, consulting engineers, New York City, served as chairman of the first meeting. Hugh W. Skidmore, of the Chicago Paving Laboratory, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, was chairman of the 1925 meeting, and Chas. A. Mullen, of the Milton Hersey Co., Ltd., of Montreal, acted as secretary of both meetings. Roy M. Green, of the Western Laboratories, Lincoln, Nebraska, was chairman of the committee which drafted the constitution and by-laws.

The association will collect and distribute technical data pertaining to asphalt paving, encourage and conduct cooperative research work and will serve as a clearing house of ideas presented by its members. The officers for the present year are:

President: Hugh W. Skidmore, president, Chicago Paving Laboratory, Inc.

First Vice-president: Leroy M. Law, chief chemist, New Orleans Refining Co.

Second Vice-president: W. J. Emmons, highway research specialist, U. S. Bureau of Public Roads, Washington, D. C.

Secretary-treasurer: Chas. A. Mullen, director, paving department, Milton Hersey Co., Montreal.

Chairman General Research Committee: Prevost Hubbard, chemical engineer, The Asphalt Association, New York.

Chairman, Committee on Voids in Aggregates: W. J. Emmons, U. S. Bureau of Public Roads.

Chairman, Committee on Street Operations: W. L. Hemplemann, engineer, The Texas Co., Chicago.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRY

IN accordance with an invitation, extended by the National Museum of Engineering and Industry to several societies many of whose members had joined it individually to nominate representatives to its board of trustees, the four National Engineering Societies, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Chemical Society and the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education have responded favorably and are now represented on its board, which is constituted as follows:

Mr. Samuel Inull, *Chairman*

Mr. L. P. Alford ³	Mr. Frederick A. Halsey
Mr. B. C. Batcheller	Prof. Dugald C. Jackson ⁷
Mr. Nicholas F. Brady	Mr. Luis Jackson
Mr. F. H. Colvin	Dr. F. B. Jewett ⁴
Mr. Norman Dodge	Mr. John W. Lieb
Mr. Gano Dunn ⁴	Mr. Fred R. Low ³
Col. A. S. Dwight ²	Mr. W. W. Macon
Mr. Thomas Ewing	Mr. L. C. Marburg
Mr. John R. Freeman ¹	Mr. H. P. Merriam
Col. Michael Friedsam	Dr. M. I. Pupin ⁵
Major H. A. Gillis	Mr. W. L. Saunders ²
Mr. Henry Goldmark	Mr. J. Waldo Smith ¹

Dr. Elmer A. Sperry⁶

¹ Nominated by American Society of Civil Engineers.

² Nominated by American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers.

³ Nominated by American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

⁴ Nominated by American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

⁵ Nominated by American Association for the Advancement of Science.

⁶ Nominated by American Chemical Society.

⁷ Nominated by Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education.

Many of its members have donated to the National Museum original historical documents, old patent records, books, drawings, prints, models, photographs and descriptions of important work, etc., and correspondence regarding such things is solicited.

In this connection the secretary has, for some years,

been collecting reminiscences not only by eminent men regarding some of their accomplishments which have not been previously recorded, but by others who may not have had such opportunities at all. There are undoubtedly many more still living or there may be some who have worked in cooperation with or in the service of others who have accomplished notable work or others who have had interesting associations with or interviews with men of notable achievements and all of these could supply very interesting reminiscences if given the opportunity.

For instance, recently a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers told of having called in 1889 on James Nasmyth, the inventor of the steam hammer and many other notable mechanisms, at his home in Kent and the latter recounted to him his experiences with James Watt who invented the steam engine in 1769. So the span of one man's life intervened between that of the man to whom more than to any one can be credited the wonderful development which has taken place in the world and that of his visitor and thus was obtained, only second-hand, a description of James Watt's appearance and manner and certain interesting facts concerning his life.

The relating of such occurrences will be most acceptable and may result in the publication later of material that would not otherwise see light. Such reminiscences may be of great value if recorded and the time to record them is now before they are forgotten or their possessors pass away.

The secretary would like to hear by letter from any one recounting items of historical value or interest or if they should happen to be in the neighborhood he would welcome a call during which their experiences can be dictated to his amanuensis. All of these accounts will be carefully catalogued and placed in the research file for reference by any one who can make proper use of them. They will eventually go for permanent preservation to the National Museum which will be part of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington.

H. F. J. PORTER,
Secretary

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRY

LECTURES ON EVOLUTION AT THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

THE chapter of Sigma Xi of the California Institute of Technology and of Mount Wilson Observatory announces that there will be given under its auspices during the present year a course of lectures on evolution in its broader aspects. The provisional program is given below. The lectures will be given in Culbertson hall at the institute at 8 o'clock on alternate Thursday evenings.