The estimates varied from $5.50 to $540 per page for the *Journal* of the American Chemical Society and from $20 to $4,000 per column for *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*.

Evidently such statistics must not be pressed too far, but it seems probable that the totals and averages are rather below than above the actual costs.

From the treasurer's report for 1925, the *Journal* contained 3,190 pages and cost $46,578.50, or about $14.60 per page. *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* contained 2,636 columns and cost $72,006, or about $27.30 per column.

The inquiry was made whether the space allowed to the author was adequate for the proper presentation of his results. Fourteen authors of articles in the *Journal* of the American Chemical Society desired more space and five authors of articles in *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*. It is evident that the need of additional funds for publication is felt much more keenly by writers for the former journal. It can scarcely be questioned that articles which will have a far-reaching and permanent effect on the development of our science are more likely to appear in that *Journal* and that the authors, as a class, receive less adequate remuneration for their work.

On the average, an interval of 4.1 months elapsed between the receipt of an article by the editor of the *Journal* of the American Chemical Society and its publication. The interval for *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* was, on the average, 2.3 months. For the latter journal very few articles were held more than two months, and little improvement could be expected for a monthly journal.

Delays are due chiefly to three causes:

(1) Inadequate funds for the publication of all suitable material submitted. The delay could be remedied during the first eight or nine months of the year by sending to the printers, each month, all articles that are ready and publishing smaller numbers during the last months of the year, if the budget requires this. It costs no more to publish an article at one time of the year than another and every one desires prompt publication.

(2) Necessity of returning articles to authors to be shortened. The remedy for this is partly in the hands of the authors. Undoubtedly some articles are improved by a briefer presentation. There is a very general feeling, however, that the abbreviation has been carried too far. So far as this is true, the only remedy is additional funds for publication. It is very evident that these are urgently needed. In spite of the rigid limits for space set by the editors, our authors evidently prefer the large circulation given to articles published in our journals to the more adequate space permitted by journals of a more limited circulation.

(3) Delay of papers in the hands of associate editors. This has very likely been aggravated by the feeling on the part of these men, all of whom are busy and serve without compensation, that the publication will be delayed for the first reason and prompt return of a paper is unnecessary. Such delays should, of course, be made as short as possible.

We seem justified in the conclusion that contributors to the journals of the American Chemical Society furnish, free gratis, articles which have cost for their preparation at least ten times the sum required for their publication. The prestige of the journals depends on the excellence of the articles contributed to them, and we are in no position to pay for them even a small fraction of what they have cost. In *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, especially, authors and firms often hesitate to publish material which may be of value to their competitors, and the public is under great obligation to those who have the wisdom to see the advantages to be gained from cooperation. We certainly owe to these authors and to the institutions and firms which they represent more adequate and prompt publication than they now receive. How can this be secured? It is very poor economy for us to promote research, as we are now doing, and refuse to furnish the means of making the work that is done of value to the world.

WILLIAM ALBERT NOYES

URBANA, ILLINOIS

THE FIRST GREENLAND EXPEDITION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

THE expedition has returned safely after spending nearly nine weeks exploring in Southwest Greenland. The *Morrissey*, on which transportation was secured for the expedition both to and from Greenland, is an 83-ton schooner with auxiliary power commanded by Captain Robert A. Bartlett and chartered by the expedition of the American Museum of Natural History directed by George Palmer Putnam.

The *Morrissey* ran upon an uncharted reef near Cape York and sustained very serious injury to her bottom, including the loss of a part of her keel. In a leaking condition the *Morrissey* left Holstenborg with the Michigan party on September 7th and the second day out lost her propeller. Thus badly crippled, after reaching the Straits of Belle Isle she encountered a series of moderate gales from the southwest which continued for five days, during which she made very little advance. These gales were succeeded by a full gale from the northeast before which she ran and reached North Sydney, Nova Scotia, on September 23rd.

The Michigan Expedition was directed by Profes-

sor William H. Hobbs and included Professor Laurence M. Gould, assistant director, geologist and photographer; Mr. S. P. Fergusson, U. S. Weather Bureau, meteorologist and upper-air expert; Professor J. E. Church, Jr., meteorologist; Mr. Ralph L. Belknap, surveyor and geologist; and Mr. P. C. Oscanyan, Jr., radio operator.

The base of the expedition was established on July 7th at Camp Little on the shore of the Maligiak Fiord, about fifty miles east of Holstensborg, where a meteorological station was at once set up and balloon work undertaken. In all, some ninety pilot balloon ascensions were made and followed with the theodolite to an average height of about 7,000 meters. Many were followed to 10,000 meters, and one to about 14,000 meters.

Ballons-sondes, making use of the new Rosby deflating device, were sent up and in three instances the meteorographs which they carried were recovered with records intact after reaching, in one case, a height of 1,500 to 2,000 meters. In two cases planned for greater heights, though the device seemed to operate, the balloons were lost; but almost miraculously one of the meteorographs was later recovered intact after having reached the extreme height of 8,000 meters. No ascensions by ballons-sondes have hitherto been carried out in Greenland.

An exploring party consisting of Hobbs, Gould, Church and Belknap with four Greenlanders traveled by umiak, canoe and on foot and reached the margin of the inland-ice about one hundred miles east of Holstensborg. The entire journey occupied twenty-two days and was shortened by the failure to find game in the interior region. The inland-ice in this district presents an unusually gradual ascent and a way of penetrating it was found without great difficulty.

Pilot balloons were sent up from the margin of the inland-ice and followed with the theodolite to a maximum height of 5,500 meters. Others were sent up from above the ice itself and were followed *over its surface throughout* to a maximum height of 2,000 meters. These ascents are the first ever to have been made at such positions either in Greenland or the Antarctic.

Psychrometer and wind observations were carried out by Professor Church at three-hour intervals both day and night during the twenty-two day journey. Self-registering instruments loaned by the U. S. Weather Bureau have been left with Governor Bistrup at Holstensborg, who has arranged to have them read regularly throughout the coming year. Observations with a tide-gauge, loaned by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, have been regularly made at Camp Little. A triangulation survey of an area of about 1,000 square miles of rugged territory has been carried out by Mr. Belknap, and in all a score of mountain peaks having altitudes up to 4,300 feet have been occupied as stations. Glaciological studies have been carried out by Professor Hobbs, and a study of raised beaches by Professor Gould.

The first short-wave wireless station to be erected away from the immediate coast of Greenland has been established for the period of occupation at Camp Little. Messages were received from American, European and South American stations, as well as from Australia and New Zealand; and much has been learned concerning the suitable conditions for operation at such stations.

This expedition is preliminary only to that planned for 1927. A depot of equipment was therefore laid down at the margin of the inland-ice, and arrangements were completed to have pemmican and other supplies taken in to the same depot by dog-sled during the coming winter.

WM. H. HOBBS

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

STATISTICS OF THE PHYSICIANS OF GERMANY IN 1926

ON the basis of the popular Reichs-Medizinal-Kalender, which, under the editorship of Prof. Julius Schwalbe, appeared again this year, for the first time since the outbreak of the war, Prinzing of Ulm, well known as a medical statistician, has published in the *Deutsche medizinische Wochenschrift* statistics on German physicians which are quoted in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association. The total number of physicians in Germany, with a population of 63,000,000, is 45,000, or 7.1 physicians to each 10,000 inhabitants. In 1913, the number of physicians was 34,000, or 5.2 to each 10,000 inhabitants. The highest percentage of physicians is found in the three cities Hamburg, Bremen and Lübeck (from 10.5 to 10.8 per 10,000 population); then follows Hesse-Nassau with 9.3. In Berlin there are 229 gynecologists, 248 surgeons, 145 ophthalmologists, 174 otorhinolaryngologists, 381 dermatologists and venerologists, 66 specialists in gastro-intestinal affections and diseases of metabolism, 177 neurologists and psychiatrists, 16 lung specialists, 147 pediatricians and 318 specialists in miscellaneous branches of medicine. In each hundred physicians in Greater Berlin, 34.5 are specialists, and for each 10,000 inhabitants there are 13.7 general practitioners and 4.5 specialists. The total number of physicians in Greater Berlin is 5,513, and the total number of dentists is 1,121. There has been a marked increase