

Luchaire and Oprescu and Mlle. Vascareseco to proceed with the carrying out of the present resolution, and, for this purpose, authorizes them to make the appointments contemplated and to take any useful steps, and in particular to arrange a meeting at Geneva of the directors of the important chalcographies for the conclusion of the agreement relating to engravings. (Paragraph (c).)

The method which the office will endeavor to apply in its work is an experimental and practical method, documentation being subordinated to action and preference being given to practical results within a limited sphere of action rather than to general schemes which may be easy to draw up but are difficult of realization.

This proposal was approved by the committee at its eighth plenary session in July, and was published as resolution XV in the report of the committee. In accordance with the action, a meeting of the directors of the important chalcographies was held in Geneva in October.

#### THE HOOPER FOUNDATION AND THE RESEARCH LABORATORY OF THE NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

THE Hooper Research Foundation of the University of California, under Dr. Karl F. Meyer, has been asked to take charge of the bacteriological laboratory of a \$100,000 research plant constructed by the American Can Company for the National Canners' Association.

The new research laboratory, a three-story building in San Francisco, will be devoted to the improvement of canning methods in the Pacific Coast States and Hawaii and to the safeguarding of the public wherever products from the district are sold.

The plant is completely equipped with chemical and bacteriological apparatus. Among the more important items are a complete hydrogen-ion outfit, complete equipment for heat penetration studies, microscopes, electric ovens and furnaces, apparatus for thermal death rate determinations, a refractometer and an electric refrigerator.

An advisory committee is in process of selection by Elmer E. Chase, of San José, Calif., president of the canners' association, and Leonard E. Wood, of San Francisco, vice-president, in cooperation with Dr. Meyer. A number of men from the Washington laboratory of the canning association are expected to aid in carrying on the work of the new plant.

The university is particularly interested in studies of botulinus, and will carry out investigations on this subject. The State Fish Commission, also, has arranged a \$15,000 fund donated by fish canners for special research in this branch of the industry. All members of the canning association have been invited to send in their problems to the laboratory for scientific study.

#### THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE ON THE AGASSIZ BUST

A SPECIAL committee has been named by the American Association for the Advancement of Science to solicit funds for a bust of Louis Agassiz, to be placed in the hall of fame of New York University, with the busts of the other great Americans who have been similarly honored. The bust is to be described as a gift from members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and others.

The undersigned have been named as the special committee for this project. The committee feels that the leading scientific society of America should rejoice in thus honoring one of the most accomplished leaders in science, at the same time one of the greatest of teachers and, moreover, for many years an active member of our association. Agassiz was president of the American Association in 1851. The needed sum, about \$3,000, can not be appropriated from the treasury of the association and must be given by individual members. Our membership is so large that the sum should be readily made up by small individual contributions.

Those contributing may send checks to any member of the committee or to the Washington office of the association, Smithsonian Institution Building, making them payable to "American Association for the Advancement of Science, Agassiz Bust Fund."

David Starr Jordan, <i>chairman</i>	Leland O. Howard
Liberty H. Bailey	Herbert Spencer Jennings
J. McKeen Cattell	Vernon Kellogg
Cornelia M. Clapp	John C. Merriam
F. V. Coville	Henry Fairfield Osborn
Barton W. Evermann	George H. Parker
J. Walter Fewkes	Charles D. Walcott
Samuel Garman	Edmund B. Wilson

#### TESTIMONIAL TO PROFESSOR WILLIAM HENRY HOLMES

As a testimonial to Professor William Henry Holmes, director of the National Gallery of Art, on the occasion of his eightieth birthday, on December 1, a volume was presented containing one hundred and fifty personal letters of felicitation from intimate friends and those colleagues and co-workers who during the past sixty years have been closely associated with him in the fields of geology, anthropology, exploration and the fine arts. The dedication of this volume, by Dr. Marcus Benjamin, reads as follows:

Out of the West came the boy, and we can fancy in those long ago days that he had a natural instinct for things beautiful, such as pleasure in the brilliant coloring of a fragrant flower; joy in watching a gay butterfly flitting to and fro in the air; following the sunlight as it glistened on the babbling brook or the foaming water

dashing over the rugged rocks; listening to the music of a bird; or perchance enjoying a wonderful sunset with its reds and yellows darkening into violets and purples. And so the boy learned color values and became an artist.

The happy days of boyhood soon passed into adolescence and manhood, and with his powers of close observation trained to study nature, Holmes concentrated his natural talents on the study of land formations. The details of rocks and strata were differentiated and he learned nature in a new way as he crossed the continent in the service of our national surveys. And the boy artist became the man geologist.

Evolution was the spirit of his time and from investigating the geological horizons of our great continent, he sought higher objects and turned his attention to the highest form in nature, which is man. The beginnings of culture attracted him. Original forms of weaving and primitive pottery became the objects of his study. And so the geologist progressed and became the anthropologist. His classical memoirs on the arts of early man are still accepted as the last words on the subjects of which they treat.

Then more years came to him and he was advanced to the charge of the Bureau of American Ethnology. His mission was to direct the studies of his disciples for the purpose of increasing and diffusing the knowledge of which he was the accepted master. And so for a decade or more the results of the progress of his favorite science were given to the world in the annual reports and bulletins issued under his supervision.

Still in the prime of his days and rich with the art instinct of his early life, cultivated and developed by the experience of many years he turned again to the ideals of his boyhood dreams and became director of the National Gallery of Art under the supervision of the Smithsonian Institution. And his duty since has been the privilege of selecting the art productions of his many contemporaries and arranging them for the edification of the public. May he long continue active in the prosecution of this work.

Of honors he has many, but why chronicle the collegiate degrees that have been conferred on him or the memberships in scientific or artistic societies that he has received? His election to the National Academy of Sciences and to the presidency of the Cosmos Club tell the story. They are all negligible when we think of the man.

Gentle and kind, sweet and true, he has given always the best that he had to his fellows, and our earnest prayer is that he may long abide with us, so that the world may continue to be made more beautiful by his splendid influence.

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE seventy-fifth birthday of Dr. John M. Coulter, emeritus professor of botany at the University of Chicago, was celebrated on November 20, at the Boyce Thompson Institute at Yonkers, N. Y., where Dr. Coulter is now engaged in research.

THE seventieth birthday of Dr. William E. Ritter, president of Science Service, first director of the Scripps Institution for Biological Research, La Jolla, Calif., and professor emeritus of zoology at the University of California, was celebrated at a dinner given in his honor at the Cosmos Club, Washington, on November 26. Gathered to honor Dr. Ritter were Mrs. Ritter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Scripps, Dr. and Mrs. Edwin E. Slosson, Dr. and Mrs. T. S. Palmer, Dr. Vernon Kellogg, Dr. J. C. Merriam, Dr. J. McKeen Cattell, Mr. and Mrs. Watson Davis, Dr. Frank Thone, Mr. James Stokley and members of the staff of Science Service. Letters and telegrams of congratulations from many of Dr. Ritter's friends and former associates were read and he was presented a souvenir book in honor of the occasion.

DR. JACOB G. LIPMAN, dean and director of Rutgers University and Experiment Station, has been elected a corresponding member of the Czechoslovakian Academy of Agriculture.

DR. ALEXANDER WETMORE, assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, has been elected honorary member of the Sociedade Protectora dos Animais de Santos e São Vicente, of Santos, Brazil.

DR. OSWALD S. LOWSLEY, director of the Brady Foundation for Urology at the New York Hospital, has been made a corresponding member of the Association Française d'Urologie and of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Urologie.

DR. GEORGE T. MOORE, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, has been elected a member of the executive committee of the Institute for Research in Tropical America.

T. L. JOSEPH, superintendent of the North Central Station of the U. S. Bureau of Mines at the University of Minnesota, has received the J. E. Johnson, Jr., award made by the board of directors of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers.

DR. F. W. SCHULTZ, professor of pediatrics in the medical school of the University of Minnesota, has been appointed a delegate to represent the American Pediatrics Society at the Fifth Pan-American Child Congress to be held at Havana, from February 13 to 20.

A COMPLIMENTARY dinner was given in honor of Dr. Franz Nagelschmidt, of Berlin, by the American Electrotherapeutic Association and the New York Electrotherapeutic Association on December 3, at the Pennsylvania Hotel.

DR. W. H. STEAVENSON has been elected president of the British Astronomical Association in succession to the Reverend C. D. Percy Davies.