SCIENCE

VOL. LXVI AUGUST 26, 1927 No. 1704

CONTENTS

SCIENCE: A Weekly Journal devoted to the Advancement of Science, edited by J. McKeen Cattell and published every Friday by

THE SCIENCE PRESS

New York City: Grand Central Terminal.

Lancaster, Pa. Garrison, N. Y.

Annual Subscription, $6.00. Single Copies, 15 Cts.

SCIENCE is the official organ of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Information regarding membership in the Association may be secured from the office of the permanent secretary, in the Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

Entered as second-class matter July 18, 1923, at the Post Office at Lancaster, Pa., under the Act of March 8, 1879.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

RENO MEETING OF THE PACIFIC DIVISION

THE eleventh annual meeting of the Pacific Division held at Reno, Nevada, June 22 to 24, 1927, was generally conceded to be a very successful one, especially from the viewpoint of the visiting scientists. That nearly 200 could be gathered together at a point so remote from population centers was considered a notable achievement. Credit is due President Walter E. Clark and his very efficient committee on arrangements, under the chairmanship of Professor Maxwell Adams, for the harmonious functioning of the various programs.

The outstanding event of the general sessions was undoubtedly the address of President Arthur A. Noyes on "The Periodic Relations of the Elements." This occurred on Wednesday evening, June 22, when after a charmingly cordial welcome by President Clark, of the University of Nevada, and the acknowledgment on behalf of the executive committee by Vice-president Joel H. Hildebrand, President Noyes launched into his theme.

The progression and recurrence of chemical and physical properties with increasing atomic number was considered in relation to the knowledge of the structure of atoms as developed within the past two years by spectroscopists and physicists.

A novel feature of the lecture was the presentation of a large colored chart showing the energy-levels and quantum relations of the constituent electrons in the various neutral atoms and in the ions resulting from them by successive losses of electrons. By frequent references to this chart, it was shown in general that these modern conceptions of atomic structure correspond to the well-known periodicity of properties; and in particular the extent was indicated to which these conceptions account for such properties as valence, ion-formation in crystals and solutions, and the radii of neutral atoms and of the ions in the solid states.

It is hoped that this address may be published for the benefit of members who were unable to attend the meeting as well as for the information of the interested public.

The Research Conference scheduled for the luncheon period of the second day was accorded more time than at previous meetings and embraced reports of recent achievements in research in Pacific Coast labo-