



FIG. 5. Some of the tempo graphs of the collection. Vertical values are in seconds, with one square from left to right for each measure in the song.

ing the sound-wave, but not in directly measurable form. The phonophotographic record will not only preserve the sound-wave for measurements, but may use the same waves for auditory reproduction by use of the photoelectric cell.

The cylinder records already collected might be photographed second hand to a profit, now that the announcement of a machine which simplifies the measurements of frequency and recurrence is imminent. There is of course a large error involved in the making of such cylinder records, and the favored method would be to make the record photographic in the original.

MILTON METFESSEL

STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

NEW LABORATORIES FOR THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE AT PARIS

THE Faculty of Medicine of Paris came into possession, in 1920, of a large tract of improved property

formerly owned and controlled by the College of Jesuits, rue de Vaugirard, comprising a hectare and a half of land (nearly four acres), which became alienated through the operation of the law pertaining to teaching religious organizations. The property was acquired by the government for 5,500,000 francs and two annuities of 5,000,000 francs each. The Paris correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association writes that the Faculty of Medicine has decided to establish a hygienic institute and the services of an experimental surgical clinic, under the direction of Professor Pierre Duval. For the latter a gift of the government of Brazil was utilized, which had organized there a model hospital during the war and which turned over to the Faculty of Medicine all its installations and a large amount of material without asking any recompense. But the government has been prevented by the financial crisis from supplying either institution with the 5,000,000 francs promised. Only 1,200,000 francs has been allotted to the surgical clinic. As for the hygienic institute, it still remained, after seven years, in the same condition it was in before. Its director, Professor Léon Bernard, has collected, through various gifts, only 800,000 francs, which has been used for the repairs on these buildings, which had deteriorated owing to their having been neglected over a period of fifteen years. Neither the minister of health nor the city of Paris, nor the general council of the Seine, has sufficient funds, at present, to supply the amount needed, by reason of the creation of overburdensome taxes, which paralyze general activities and yet do not furnish an adequate return, while the high cost of living and the increase of salaries and pensions absorb a large part of the available liquid assets. An anonymous donor has contributed 500,000 francs; the fund into which are paid the levies on gambling, clubs and horse racing has furnished an additional 150,000 francs. With this sum, the buildings that were falling into ruin have been restored and six large laboratories have been built and equipped with the necessary supplies, including suitable quarters for experimental animals. The final results are excellent, but it is claimed that they would not have been possible except for the fact that the Faculty of Medicine was free to dispose of the funds as it chose, whereas if the government had taken charge of the improvements the expenditures might have been twice as great. The architects and contractors granted discounts of from 25 to 40 per cent. on the prices that they demand of the government, which pays their bills only after long delays and innumerable formalities. The new laboratories are intended for the department of physiology, which was very poorly equipped heretofore, and are placed under the direction of Dr. Santenise. The official dedication took place on Novem-

ber 23, under the chairmanship of the minister of public instruction, although that department did not contribute toward the realization of the project, the actual donor preferring to remain unknown. It is generally assumed, however, that a retired professor of the Faculty of Medicine furnished the funds.

THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF THE GEODETIC WORK OF THE U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

BILLS to authorize the transfer of the geodetic work of the Coast and Geodetic Survey from the Department of Commerce to the Department of the Interior have been introduced into both houses of the Congress. The bill, introduced into the House of Representatives by Mr. Sinnott and referred to the committee on interstate and foreign commerce, follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that effective sixty days from the approval of this act, and thereafter, the Geological Survey of the Department of the Interior shall be responsible for the execution of geodetic surveys required by the Federal Government in the interior of the United States, including federal, boundary and state surveys, exact levels, triangulation and transverse, the determination of field astronomic positions and variations of latitude, and gravity observations, precise triangulation and leveling in regions subject to earthquakes, and all seismological observations in the United States including the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii.

SEC. 2. That such civilian employees of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, both in Washington and in the field, as may be engaged in work relating to the geodetic and other activities enumerated in Section 1, shall be transferred, without change in classification or compensation, from the Department of Commerce to the Department of the Interior, as the heads of the respective departments may decide: *Provided*, That any commissioned officer now engaged on this work may be detailed by the Secretary of Commerce to duty in the Geological Survey under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior for such period, not exceeding two years from the time when this Act shall take effect, as the Secretary of the Interior may deem advisable, and any officer so detailed shall be entitled to receive the traveling and other allowances authorized by law for the commissioned officers of the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

SEC. 3. The unexpended balances of appropriations, or allotments therefrom, available to the Coast and Geodetic Survey for said activities, including the appropriations for the salaries of the civilian personnel involved, shall be transferred, in such amounts as may be agreed upon by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, to the Geological Survey, and shall become available for expenditure under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. That after this Act becomes effective, the

Coast and Geodetic Survey of the Department of Commerce shall be known and designated as the United States Coast Survey.

SEC. 5. That all power and authority conferred by law upon the Department of Commerce, or the secretary thereof, in relation to the work hereby transferred, shall, immediately when said transfer becomes effective, be fully conferred upon and vested in the Department of the Interior, or the secretary thereof, as the case may be.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION

THE fourth annual meeting of the Northwest Scientific Association was held at Spokane, Washington, in the Davenport Hotel on Wednesday and Thursday, December 28 and 29, under the presidency of Mr. L. K. Armstrong, consulting engineer of Spokane. There was a noticeable increase in the number of members attending the sessions and in the number of guests and visitors over former years.

There were three general sessions in addition to the annual business meeting. One of the general meetings was devoted to medicine and surgery, the second to forest problems and the third to scientific research in history. There were also section meetings of the following sections: Botany, zoology, chemistry, physics, education, engineering, forestry, geology, geography, plant pathology and social science.

The annual dinner of the association was held on Wednesday evening in the Elizabethan Room, Davenport Hotel. On this occasion the address of the retiring president, President Chas. H. Clapp, University of Montana, was delivered. His subject was "National Resources and World Problems."

The following officers were elected for the year 1928:

President: Dr. E. A. Bryan, president emeritus of Washington State College, Pullman, Washington.

Vice-president: Dean Ivan C. Crawford, State University, Moscow, Idaho.

Secretary-treasurer: J. W. Hungate, State Normal School, Cheney, Washington.

At the business meeting the report of the committee on facilities for research and publication was adopted. This report carried the recommendation that the association take steps to form a corporation jointly with the Eastern Washington Historical Society, the resulting body to be known as The Northwest Institute of Arts and Science. A committee will be appointed by the incoming president for the purpose of conferring with a committee from the Eastern Washington Historical Society, this committee to report to the association for confirmation of the terms of cooperation. The association also passed a resolution favor-