

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-