the preceding week. And when New Year's day falls on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday the meeting opens on December 27 and continues through January 2. Plans of individuals and societies may thus be made years in advance. It requires just twenty-eight years to complete the cycle of dates and days. Dates and meeting places for the next five annual meetings are shown below.

1928–29 (New York): Thursday, December 27, 1928, to Wednesday, January 2, 1929.

1929–30 (Des Moines): Friday, December 27, 1929, to Thursday, January 2, 1930.

1930–31 (probably Cleveland or Montreal): Monday, December 29, 1930, to Saturday, January 3, 1931.

1931–32 (probably New Orleans): Monday, December 28, 1931, to Saturday, January 2, 1932.

1932–33 (Chicago): Monday, December 26, to Saturday, December 31, 1932.

SPECIAL NOTES

(1) This issue of SCIENCE contains only the general reports on the second Nashville meeting. Reports of the sessions of sections and societies are to appear in the next following issue, for February 3.

(2) The journal subscriptions of members for 1927 who have not yet enrolled for 1928 are to be continued to include the issue of SCIENCE for February 3. Dues for 1928 that have not been paid earlier should be paid now; otherwise the journal subscriptions can not be continued longer.

(3) All who are interested in the advancement of science and education should belong to the American Association. New members are received at any time. Information about the organization and work of the association and about the responsibilities and privileges of membership therein may be secured at any time from the permanent secretary who is to be addressed at the Washington office of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

NEW BUILDING FOR THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

ANNOUNCEMENT of a new building for physics, mathematics and astronomy was made on January 12 by President Max Mason, of the University of Chicago, at the annual dinner of the trustees to the faculty.

A gift from Mr. Bernard A. Eckhart, president of the B. A. Eckhart Milling Co., has been added to a fund already available and has made it possible for the university to proceed with a building on a scale adequate to the needs of these three important departments rather than a building of limited possibilities. "In recognition of Mr. Eckhart's benefaction, the building will be known as the 'Bernard A. Eckhart laboratory.'"

The laboratory will be erected to the east of Ryerson physical laboratory. Charles Z. Klander, well-known Philadelphia architect, is now engaged in drafting plans for the laboratory, and has already submitted sketches for a structure of Gothic design in harmony with the university's style of architecture.

Ryerson physical laboratory, given the University of Chicago thirty-four years ago by Martin A. Ryerson in honor of his father, is now inadequate to the needs of the three departments, which have been among the most productive in the university. Most of the activities of the astronomy department, however, are centered in the university's Yerkes Observatory at Williams Bay, Wis.

A correspondent writes: "The physics department at Chicago is distinguished, the only three awards of the Nobel prize in physics to America having been made to University of Chicago men, Albert A. Michelson, Arthur H. Compton and Robert Millikan, now head of the Norman Bridge Laboratory of Pasadena, California. In the mathematics department, Professors E. H. Moore, Gilbert A. Bliss, Herbert E. Slaught and Leonard E. Dickson are among the leading mathematicians of the country."

THE PURE SCIENCE RESEARCH FUND AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT JOHN GRIER HIBBEN has announced that, in consideration of the fact that Princeton University has already received in cash more than a million dollars toward its three-million dollar pure-science research fund, the General Education Board has granted the university for the coming year the interest on half its conditional gift of one million dollars.

The gift of the General Education Board of one million dollars was contingent on the university raising the other two million dollars from other sources. The grant for the coming year amounts to $25,000, representing five per cent. interest on half of the conditional gift. $1,461,000 has already been pledged toward the $2,000,000 which Princeton University must raise, of which $1,133,945 has been paid.

President Hibben has made the following statement regarding the fund:

The funds already received for pure science research have enabled the trustees to appoint five research pro-

fessors who, with the cooperation of other professors in their departments, graduate students and National Research Fellows and International Research Fellows, are carrying on research in science to a degree unprecedented in Princeton.

In the mathematics department a group of research students comprising six National Research Fellows and two International Research Fellows—one a privat-docent at Berlin and the other a professor from Russia—are engaged in research in analysis situs and differential geometry, the chief fields of research of our mathematicians.

In the chemistry department the number of men engaged in research is 30 per cent. greater than last year. A considerable number of the investigators in chemistry are engaged in catalytic studies. They include a research associate from Sweden, an International Research Fellow from Berlin, one National Research Fellow, a visiting professor on leave from India, a visiting fellow from Oxford and several graduate students.

Investigators in the department of physics are cooperating with those in the department of chemistry in a combined attack on problems of excited atoms, dielectrics and the electrical properties of molecules. Important spectroscopic work is also being done in collaboration with the department of astronomy. Twenty-four men are conducting experiments in physics, including nine members of the regular staff, nine graduate students, three National Research Fellows, one International Research Fellow from Göttingen, one Procter Fellow from Cambridge University, England, and one fellow each from the research laboratories of the General Electric Company and the Westinghouse Company.

In the department of biology, researches on heredity and mutation in plants, on the localization of developmental materials and processes in animal eggs, on the origin of the vascular system in vertebrates, on the morphology and physiology of bioluminescence and the biochemistry of photosynthesis are being conducted by twelve members of the staff and graduate students.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

THE following resolution, prepared with the authority of the council of the Geological Society of America, was adopted by the society assembled in annual meeting at Cleveland, on December 30, 1927.

WHEREAS, Housebill No. 7480 to transfer the geodetic, seismologic and related services of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey to the U. S. Geological Survey is before the committee on interstate and foreign commerce of the house and has been presented in the senate, and

WHEREAS, The proposed transfer, if effected, would materially change the status of the specified scientific research which is of great importance to science and to the people of the United States, and

WHEREAS, The proposed administrative change would disrupt the Coast and Geodetic Survey and would terminate the activity of that organization in lines of research in which it has long been engaged and in which it has won the respect and confidence of the scientific world among all nations;

Therefore, be it resolved, That it is the sense of this society that the proposed transfer should be made only after thorough consideration by competent scientific authority and in accordance with the recommendations which that authority may make; and

That to this end we recommend that the proposed legislation be referred to the National Academy of Sciences for appropriate action, and further that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the committees of the House and Senate having charge of the respective bills.

BAILEY WILLIS,
EDWARD B. MATHEWS,
Committee

THE SECOND SESSION OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY

THE second session of the Institute of Chemistry of the American Chemical Society will be held in Evanston, Illinois, from July 23 to August 18. Every effort is being made to arrange the lectures and conferences of the institute in such a way as to offer a unique service to chemists both industrial and academic. The committee in charge of the institute consists of N. E. Gordon, chairman of the A. C. S. committee on chemical education, University of Maryland; B. S. Hopkins, chairman of the division of chemical education, A. C. S., University of Illinois; H. E. Howe, editor, *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* and head of the A. C. S. news service, Washington, D. C.; C. E. K. Mees, Eastman Kodak Company; S. W. Parr, president of the American Chemical Society, University of Illinois; C. L. Parsons, secretary of the American Chemical Society, Washington, D. C.; C. M. A. Stine, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company; G. L. Wendt, Pennsylvania State College; F. C. Whitmore, National Research Council; W. R. Whitney, General Electric Company, and F. W. Willard, Western Electric Company. The executive secretary will be C. D. Hurd, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

Following is a tentative list of subjects for conferences for the Institute of Chemistry. Suggestions and criticisms should be sent to F. C. Whitmore, National Research Council, Washington, D. C. There will be 28 conferences, arranged at times when two and a half hours will be available for each. Thus, several conferences will be devoted to the same subject if it seems important enough to warrant this.

One group of subjects will deal with the help which chemistry can give for the better utilization of raw materials:

Agricultural products
Coal