

(Reports from Edward Ellery, John T. McGill, Sidney M. Cadwell, R. M. Peterson and Amy G. McKeel)

The Society of the Sigma Xi held its twenty-eighth convention on Tuesday. Reports were made by the officers and charters were voted for chapters at the University of Maryland, Lehigh University, University of Illinois College of Medicine, and Kansas State Agricultural College. Officers were elected as follows: *President*, Vernon Kellogg; *secretary*, Edward Ellery; *treasurer*, George B. Pegram. The annual dinner was followed by the Sixth Annual Sigma Xi Lecture, delivered at the Tuesday evening general session of the association, by President Clarence Cook Little, of the University of Michigan, who spoke on "Some Opportunities for Research in Mammalian Genetics."

The American Nature-Study Society met on Tuesday and Wednesday. No report has been received.

The Tennessee Academy of Science, officially affiliated with the American Association, on Monday afternoon joined Section D in a session devoted to reminiscences of the late Edward Emerson Barnard, a native of Nashville. The latter session was opened by Judge Robert Ewing, chairman of the Board of Trustees of Watkins Institute, Nashville, who was a member of the reception committee for the first Nashville meeting, fifty years ago. J. W. Braid, chemist-photographer and instrument maker, spoke of Barnard's first work with Van Stavoren, photographer and portrait painter, his enthusiasm for astronomy, his use of an old spyglass as his first telescope, etc. P. R. Calvert, who was intimately associated with Barnard for eight years in the gallery of R. Poole, successor to Van Stavoren, told the story of Barnard's introduction to Simon Newcomb in the State Capitol at the meeting of the American Association in Nashville in 1877. Barnard joined the association at that meeting. Olin H. Lambeth told of Barnard's exceptional admission to the university as a special student, and at the same time as assistant instructor in astronomy. Robert G. Aitken, Philip Fox and D. W. Morehouse gave interesting accounts of their association with Barnard at the Lick and Yerkes observatories. The session closed with a tribute to Barnard by Miss Mary R. Calvert, his niece and his secretary and assistant for many years at the Yerkes Observatory. Since Barnard's death she has carried to completion his last great work, the "Atlas of Selected Portions of the Milky Way," recently published by the Carnegie Institution of Washington. A collection of photographs, medals and other Barnardiana was on exhibition during the meeting.

The Gamma Alpha Graduate Scientific Fraternity held a dinner Thursday evening, at which Dr. William Crocker, of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, spoke on "A Pan-American University in Porto Rico: a Great Move for International Peace." The projected university would be affiliated with the other graduate schools at the University of Porto Rico. Porto Rico is the best common meeting ground for the Spanish and English cultures of the western hemisphere, which among other things makes the island very well suited for an international educational project.

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi held its tenth general convention on Tuesday evening and Wednesday. There was an active discussion of concrete methods for the encouragement of scholarship in educational institutions. Favorable action was taken on a petition for a chapter at Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa. Officers were elected as follows: *President*, R. C. Gibbs; *secretary*, C. H. Gordon.

The Sigma Delta Epsilon Graduate Women's Scientific Fraternity held its annual convention following a breakfast on Wednesday morning. The breakfast was open to all women interested in science and was attended by fifty-seven women, representing twenty-eight institutions. Dr. Frances Wick, of Vassar College, spoke on "Some Reflections upon Invisible Radiations and Their Effects," and her talk was much appreciated by physicists and biologists alike.

SPECIAL NOTES

(1) This issue of SCIENCE contains the reports of the sessions of sections and societies at Nashville. The general reports of the meeting have appeared in the preceding issue, for January 27.

(2) Copies of the issue for January 27 may be had free from the permanent secretary's office, Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C., so long as the supply lasts.

(3) Members who were enrolled for the year 1927 but who have not yet sent in their dues for 1928 are asked to do so now; otherwise the journal subscriptions can not be continued longer.

(4) 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's Washington office, Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.