

At a meeting held in New York on December 27 a new scientific society, The Acoustical Society of America, was formed, to bring together workers of all branches of pure and applied acoustics. Among its activities will be the provision of a medium of publication for papers on acoustics, for which there is acute need; such papers have hitherto been widely scattered. Elected to temporary office were: *President*—Dr. Harvey Fletcher, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories; *vice-president*—Professor V. O. Knudsen, of the University of California; *secretary*—Wallace Waterfall, of the Celotex Company; *treasurer*—C. F. Stoddard, of the American Piano Company. A committee was appointed by Dr. Fletcher to consider the details of organization, and the first regular meeting was set for some time in April at the Bell Telephone Laboratories. There were present forty of the leading authorities on acoustics, among whom were Professor D. C. Miller, of the Case School of Applied Science; Professor F. A. Saunders, of Harvard University; J. P. Maxfield, of the Victor Talking Machine Company; R. V. Parsons, of the Johns Manville Company, and Professor F. R. Watson, of the University of Illinois. After the meeting the members of the new society were entertained at luncheon by Dr. H. D. Arnold, director of research of the Bell Telephone Laboratories.

DR. FRANCISCO MARIA FERNANDEZ, Cuban secretary of sanitation, has been elected president of the Pan-American Medical Association for 1929. Panama City was selected for the second congress of the association next year. The date will not be made public for the present. The Panama government made the offer through Dr. Jaime de la Guardia, delegate from Panama. Dr. J. W. Valentine, urologist of New York, was chosen president-elect for 1931. Among the vice-presidents elected were Dr. William J. Mayo, of Rochester, Minnesota, and Dr. Llewellys Barker, of Baltimore. Dr. Conrad Berens was reelected secretary and Dr. Lee M. Hurd, treasurer. It is expected that the Gorgas Memorial Laboratory for Tropical Research will be functioning when the Pan-American Congress meets in Panama next year. Dr. Herbert Clark, selected to take charge of the laboratory work, will make preparations for the installation of equipment in the building offered by the Panama government.

THE Municipal Court of Philadelphia has relinquished its claim to the Parkway site, bounded by 21st, 22nd, Race and Wood Streets, in favor of Franklin Institute. It is planned to erect on this site a building as memorial to Benjamin Franklin to cost \$4,000,000.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE H. ROOS, San Francisco, have given the University of California \$100,000 in

memory of Mrs. Roos's parents, J. J. and Nettie Mack, to be used in the medical school for the study of cancer and surgical diseases of the chest. Only the interest will be used for research. The fund, which will be known as the J. J. and Nettie Mack Memorial Foundation, will be governed by a committee of the medical faculty. The Hooper Foundation will cooperate in this work.

ELLIS L. PHILLIPS, president of the Long Island Lighting Company, has given \$100,000 to the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

ARRANGEMENTS have been completed whereby the Department of Zoology at the University of Texas will have \$135,000 to be used in the development of graduate instruction and research during the next eight years. Approximately one half of this sum will be given by the General Education Board; the rest will be raised by the university. The zoological staff plans to use a portion of this fund for technical assistance and for fellowships.

A GIFT of \$100,000 has been made by Dr. and Mrs. Wilbur W. Beckett to the endowment fund of the school of medicine of the University of Southern California.

THE will of Henry C. Munger, of Plainfield, N. J., provides charitable bequests of \$960,000. Mount Holyoke receives \$200,000 and Northfield School, \$100,000.

PAUL F. WILLIAMS, an engineer and business executive of Chicago, has established the Paul F. Williams Research Fellowship Fund for the promotion of scientific research at Purdue University. This fund provides for several one thousand dollar annual research fellowships. At least two of these will be available for physical research in the Graduate School of the School of Science.

GEORGE H. LAMSON, head of the zoological department of the Connecticut Agricultural College, has been appointed dean of the division of agricultural science, vice Dr. E. W. Sinnott, whose resignation was recently announced.

THE resignation of Dr. Clarence Cook Little as president of the University of Michigan was presented to the Board of Regents on January 21. The board adopted a resolution of regret. In his letter of resignation Dr. Little says: "My methods of handling situations dealing with the interests of private donors, political interests, local interests and alumni interests are not consistent with the policies the board of regents deem wise."