

Sound region of Baffin Island, and 1928-29 in Cape Dorset and Foxe Channel region for the Department of the Interior, will leave in July for Lake Harbour, Baffin Land, north side of Hudson Strait, where he will spend two years as investigator, North West

Territories and Yukon Branch, Department of the Interior. One of the results of Mr. Soper's 1928-29 expedition was the discovery of the hitherto unknown nesting grounds of the blue goose.

CORRESPONDENT

QUOTATIONS

THE DETROIT SESSION OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

THE multitude of provisions for instruction and entertainment at the Detroit session was perhaps the most striking feature of the annual session of the association just held in that city. Some activity was scheduled for satisfactory use of every moment of the visitor's time, and it remained only for him to employ his time to his own best advantage. From the first two days, during which a series of extraordinary clinical lectures and talking motion pictures were available, to the last three days, in which the fifteen scientific sections provided more than three hundred manuscripts on various phases of medical progress, scientific discourse occupied the auditorium and the halls in the Masonic Temple. At the same time, the greatest number of scientific and technical exhibits ever assembled under the auspices of the association held forth in every available space on several floors in the same building. For the evening the Michigan State Medical Society provided a past-presidents' dinner for the opening night, given exclusively for the officers and the House of Delegates; the opening meeting with the presentation of emblems to past-presidents took place on Tuesday night; numerous fraternity and other social entertainments were held on Wednesday; the president's reception on Thursday, and boat rides, motor bus trips and private tours were provided by the Local Committee on Arrange-

ments for the intervening periods, if any. Obviously, complete utilization of such provisions placed a tax on the physical endurance of the convention guest, and a course of rest and physical training in anticipation of the session was almost necessary to enable the too enthusiastic conventionist to survive successfully the session's attractions. The meetings of the House of Delegates were marked primarily by the demonstration of confidence in the work of the Board of Trustees and by special interest in the economic problems affecting the progress of medicine to-day. Thus, resolutions concerning the care of veterans' legislation, federal aid on maternal welfare, mental hygiene, and similar problems dominated the picture. It is significant that the resolution concerning aid for veterans adopted by the House of Delegates was specifically referred to by the President of the United States in his message vetoing the veterans' bill. The attendance of more than five thousand physicians in a time of financial stress indicates the manner in which the medical profession accepts the importance of this annual session. The appreciation of all of those who attended must be tendered to the Local Committee on Arrangements, which contributed freely of its funds, its time and its efforts to build the success of the meeting. The hospitality shown has established the profession of Detroit in the affections of the Fellows of the American Medical Association.—*Journal of the American Medical Association*.

SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE SOCIETY MEETING IN DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

THE History of Science Society met concurrently with the American Historical Association at the forty-fourth annual meeting at Durham and Chapel Hill, North Carolina, on December 30 and 31, 1929, and January 1, 1930.

This is the tenth anniversary of the History of Science group of the American Historical Association which was inaugurated in 1920 by Dr. Lynn Thorndike, of Columbia University, president of the History of Science Society. The following year a similar section was instituted by the American Associa-

tion for the Advancement of Science at the Chicago meeting with the late Dr. William A. Loey as chairman of the committee, later vice-president of Section L.

The interest in the history of science movement has grown so steadily ever since that finally both groups were combined to form the History of Science Society, under the direction of Dr. David Eugene Smith at Columbia University in 1924. The society now enjoys its sixth anniversary, and a membership close to seven hundred, consisting of many of the most distinguished scholars and scientists of the world.

The short program presented at Durham on January 1 was entirely devoted to the history of early

American scientific development. Following are the titles of the papers. This meeting was presided over by Dr. Thorndike, and the discussion was led by Dr. L. C. Karpinski followed by Dr. W. H. Welch, Dr. Joseph Mayer, Dr. Victor H. Paltsits and others. Discussion proved of great value and importance.

"Influence of the Mathematics of the French Revolution on Mathematics in American Colleges," by Dr. Lao G. Simons, Hunter College.

"Popularization of Science in the American Revolutionary Era," by Dr. Evarts B. Greene, Columbia University.

"A Century of American Geodesy," by Dr. Florian Cajori, University of California.

"Medical Practice in the Old South," by Dr. Richard H. Shryock, Duke University.

Dr. Shryock's paper was given at 12:30 at the complimentary luncheon (by Duke University) conference on the history of science. Dr. H. W. Tyler, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, presided.

Following is an extract of the council record.

The Council of the History of Science Society met at the Hope Valley Country Club, Durham, North Carolina, on December 30, 1929, at 4:15 P. M., with President Lynn Thorndike in the chair. There were present the president, Professors Crew, Cajori, Karpinski, Shryock, Simons, Tyler, Welch and Secretaries Brasch and Mayer. Dr. d'Irsay was also present as a guest. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following new officers and council members were elected: *President*, Dr. Henry Crew; *vice-presidents*, Dr. William H. Welch, Dr. Berthold Laufer; *members of the council to serve until December, 1932*: Dr. Victor Robinson, Dr. Henry G. Gale, Dr. Richard H. Shryock, Mr. George E. Roberts, Dr. Alfred C. Lane.

The report of the treasurer and corresponding secretary was read and approved. Mr. Brasch gave an account of his efforts to secure a translation of the work of Copernicus and the nominal expenses involved. The report was accepted and placed on file. It was voted to extend the thanks of the council to the Carnegie Corporation of New York for the appropriation of \$7,500 to establish a revolving fund for publications; to authorize the incoming president to appoint a committee of three to be known as the revolving book fund committee to have general responsibility for the administration of the fund, major matters of policy to be passed upon by the council. It was further voted that, if a

translation of the Copernicus manuscript entitled "De Revolutionibus, etc.," is published under the auspices of the History of Science Society, it should be a complete rendition of the original.

In the absence of the editor of *Isis*, the president read two communications from him, after which the following actions were taken: Voted that the council authorize the appointment by the president of an executive committee of five members, the incoming president to be the chairman for the year 1930 and to select the other four members;¹ that the executive committee take up with Dr. Sarton the question of drafting an agreement between him and the History of Science Society regarding the conduct of *Isis*.

President Thorndike presented an interesting account of his contact with the Comité Internationale d'Histoire des Sciences in London, after which it was voted to give consent to the use of the name of the History of Science Society in connection with the International Congress of the History of Science and Technology to be held in London in July, 1931, without involving the History of Science Society in any expense.

Dr. Mayer reported informally regarding the work of the endowment committee and read extracts of letters commenting on the tentative draft of the endowment project previously circulated to the council. The report of progress was accepted and placed on file.

Dr. Thorndike was elected delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies for term of four years.

Mr. Brasch was reelected treasurer and corresponding secretary for 1930.

Dr. Mayer was reelected recording secretary for 1930.

It was voted that the executive committee be asked to take up the question of a redistribution of the functions of the treasurer and the secretaries and report back to the council.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P. M.

After the large amount of important matters of business and election of officers, the members of the council enjoyed a unique and fine Southern dinner prepared under the direction of Dr. Shryock. Following this, the members of the council were taken back to hear President James H. Robinson's address.

The History of Science Society will meet with the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Cleveland in 1930.

FREDERICK E. BRASCH,
Corresponding Secretary
JOSEPH MAYER,
Recording Secretary

SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND LABORATORY METHODS

A MICROSCOPE-CENTRIFUGE

THE centrifuge has been used in experimental study of living cells for several types of investigation. First, to determine relative specific gravity and total

volume of granules (which are stratified under centrifugal force) present in living cells. Second, to

¹ At a later date the president reported the following appointments to the executive committee: R. C. Archibald, F. Cajori, H. G. Gale, H. W. Tyler, H. Crew.