their location, treatment and charting, systems of clipping, weighing, value and limitations.

3. Methods of studying plant development for seasonal use and other purposes, autecology-phenology and life histories; value and methods; period studies, panel exclosures, and other methods including procedure, measurements, equipment, value and limitations.
4. Utilization and palatability, methods of measuring and computing for different kinds of vegetation.
5. Methods for controlling the grazing factor, including isolation transects, permanent exclosures and inclosures, intermediate control inclosures and exclosures, and other fenced plots.
6. Instrumentation, essential facts to measure, instruments and analysis correlation, and presentation of data.
7. Methods of studying the influence of grazing on saw timber types.
8. Methods of studying inter-relation between grazing and erosion.
9. Methods of studying animal life, including livestock, rodents, big game, upland game birds and other birds and animals.
10. Terminology—suggestions regarding standardization—(a) standard terms, (b) open terms.
11. Plant nomenclature—(a) scientific names, (b) common names.
12. Compilation and analysis of range research data with special attention given to the use of statistical methods.

The committee hopes to prepare a detailed account covering the various topics for discussion at the meeting. In order to do this it is necessary to have available outlines of the various methods in use by different investigators. The committee would be glad to receive any suggestions as to points to be discussed and would especially like to have each investigator submit outlines or other descriptions of methods used in range research.

It would greatly facilitate matters if every one would send the secretary his own name and address and the names and addresses of others who might be interested in order that subsequent announcements may be properly sent.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS

PLANS for formation of a consolidated scientific organization to be known as the American Institute of Physics have been made public by Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Both science and the public are to be served. The institution will bring together several scientific organizations now separate but having common interests. It will also knit together a great group of men in industrial laboratories and manufacturing plants who, as physicists, play a most fundamental rôle in modern industry, but who have not heretofore constituted a well-recognized unit. Also in schools and colleges, local or student branches of the institute may be found. For the public there will be a press department to explain some of the fascinating laboratory happenings which often remain masked behind unfamiliar scientific words. This will include cooperation with the press and contacts with local groups interested in physics.

The plans were started jointly by the American Physical Society, the Optical Society of America and the Acoustical Society of America. The Society of Rhedology has also joined in the movement to establish the institute and several other national as well as some local organizations have expressed interest in joining or becoming affiliated with it.

Dr. Compton is chairman of the governing board of the institute, which has been set up jointly by the cooperative societies to work out the organization problems. The secretary of the board is Dr. George B. Pegram, head of the department of physics and formerly dean of engineering in Columbia University. Other members include directors and leaders in some of the largest industrial research laboratories as well as university men.

The productivity of American research physicists has increased so rapidly that the present means of publication of their results have been quite overstrained. Hence one immediate objective of the cooperating societies is to achieve through the new institute unified and enlarged publications for research results and other information in physics, including abstracts of all published work in physics over the world. In this publication to cover the field of physics it is expected to attain a high standard of completeness and promptness. The Chemical Foundation, Inc., of New York, has offered to undertake the handling of the business end of the publication.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED BY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

THE recipients of the honorary degrees of doctor of science at the recent commencement of Columbia University with the formulae used by President Nicholas Murray Butler in conferring the degrees were:

JAY DOWNER, chief engineer of the Westchester County Park Commission—Native of Iowa; graduated at Princeton University with the class of 1905; for some twenty years associated as planner and leader with the development of the neighboring county of Westchester; a singularly high type of public servant, endowed with that vision and courage which multiply