

Election of national officers resulted as follows: Marion E. Dice, Los Angeles, national president; H. E. Wiedemann, St. Louis, senior vice-president; V. W. Meloche, University of Wisconsin, junior vice-president; W. S. Ritchie, University of Missouri, national ritualist; John R. Kuebler, Indianapolis, national secretary. Charles A. Mann, University of Minnesota, retiring national president, was presented a diamond bordered badge.

Conclave hosts were the Alpha Rho chapter, University of Maryland, Alpha Pi chapter, George Washington University, and the professional chapter in Washington.

W. L. Lamar was chairman and Norman Bekkedahl secretary of the local Washington committee. Chairmen of the various committees were as follows: Hospitality, H. H. Kaveler; Finance, H. A. Jones; Registration, T. C. Davis; Transportation, N. Bekkedahl; Dance, S. T. Schiektanz; Smoker, O. W. May; Sports, H. P. Newton; Initiation, R. L. Sawyer; Ladies Entertainment, C. A. White; Printing, Klare S. Markley; Publicity, R. M. Hann. National committee chairmen were as follows: State of the Order, John D. Ferry, Stanford; Finance, A. B. Weaver, Indiana University; Ways and Means, T. G. Rochow, Cornell University, and Credentials, E. S. Gruver, University of Maryland.

#### THE FIFTH GREENLAND EXPEDITION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

THE Michigan Pan-American Airways Expedition, the fifth Greenland Expedition of the University of Michigan, sailed from New York on June 15 on the schooner *Morrissey*, Captain R. A. Bartlett, bound for Cape York in Northwest Greenland to erect a memorial column to Admiral Peary, discoverer of the North Pole. The *Morrissey* was to call at Brigus, Newfoundland, June 26, to take on board masons and also Dr. Ralph L. Belknap, the leader of the Michigan Expedition.

Besides the leader, the Michigan Expedition includes Evans S. Schmeling, second in command and aerologist; Max Demorest, assistant aerologist, and Herbert Gardner. Demorest, who was assistant aerologist of the fourth Greenland Expedition, is to join in September, going by way of Copenhagen. The base of the expedition is to be the neck of the Upper Nugsuak peninsula in latitude 74° N. near where the Cornell Greenland Expedition under the late Professor R. S. Tarr made its base more than thirty years ago. Aerological work will be carried out throughout the period of the Second International Polar Year. Glaciological and geological work will also be included, and Dr. Belknap expects to make a dog-sled expedition to the middle of the ice-cap in the early

spring of 1933. He will also carry out certain studies for the Pan-American Airways. Dr. Belknap has been a member of three earlier Greenland expeditions, Mr. Schmeling of two, and Mr. Demorest of one; all expeditions from the University of Michigan.

#### AWARDS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

THE annual meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, London, was held on the afternoon of June 20, when the medals and awards for 1932 were presented. The King had approved the award of the Founder's Medal to Mr. H. G. Watkins for his work in the Arctic regions as leader of the British Arctic air route expedition, and of the Patron's Medal to H.R.H. the Duke of Spoleto for his work in the Himalaya as leader of the Karakoram Expedition in 1929.

According to the report in the London *Times*, Admiral Sir William Goodenough, who presided and made the presentations, said that the award to the Duke of Spoleto—who was unable to be present—was a recognition on the part of the society of the admirable work done by his Royal Highness when he led the Italian expedition in 1929 and also of his preliminary visit to Askole the year before, when he took up a large amount of stores and made the necessary reconnaissance which ensured success. This expedition resulted, among other things, in joining up with the route of Sir Francis Younghusband's in the Shaksgam Valley and later tracing that valley above the Urdok Glacier. It was agreeable that the long association of the society with the Royal House of Savoy should be continued in a younger generation.

To Mr. Watkins, Admiral Goodenough said: "His Majesty has approved of the Founder's Medal being awarded to you for your work of investigation, exploration, and research in the Arctic, culminating in the British Arctic air route expedition of 1930-31. I believe that you are the youngest man who has ever received a Royal Medal of this society. You have placed yourself in the front rank of Arctic explorers. We wish you well in the minor expedition that you are going to lead in Greenland, and we hope that in the future you will be enabled to carry out that great project in the Antarctic which I know fills your mind." The other awards made included the Victoria medal to Professor A. P. Coleman, of Toronto, for his contributions to the geography and geology of Canada; the Murchison Grant to Dr. K. S. Sandford, secretary of the commission of the International Geographical Union on Pliocene and Pleistocene Terraces, for his personal work in that investigation during the past six years; the Back Grant to Mr. Hugh