

In addition to the stellar radial velocities the new catalogue lists the radial velocities of 133 galactic nebulae, including 18 in the Magellanic Clouds, the radial velocities of 18 globular clusters, and the radial velocities of 90 extra-galactic nebulae, assuming that the observed displacements of the lines in the spectra of these objects arise from the relative motions of nebulae and observer. Seven of these nebulae have relative velocities of approach. For the remainder

the celebrated "red shift" predominates. The greatest velocity of recession at the date of closing of the catalogue is 19,700 km./sec. The catalogue gives evidence of the greatest care in the assembling and arrangement of the material, and in the printing. It is a valuable contribution to the literature of astronomy.

ROBERT H. BAKER

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS OBSERVATORY

REPORTS

THE ASSOCIATION TO AID SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BY WOMEN

SINCE the final meeting of the Association to Aid Scientific Research in New York on Saturday, April the thirtieth, the secretary has received many requests for information about the association. It seems fitting, therefore, that *SCIENCE* print for the benefit of its readers this brief sketch of the whys, wherefores, origin and termination of the Association to Aid Scientific Research by Women.

To go back many years, in 1872 Professor Anton Dohrn founded at Naples, Italy, a Zoological Station for the collection of biological material and for the study of various forms of plant and animal life. This station rapidly developed into an institution of international importance, where students gathered from all over the world for scientific research and professional training as teachers of science. Among those who had studied at the station was Miss Ida H. Hyde, an American woman, who received her doctor's degree from the University of Heidelberg in 1896. It occurred to Miss Hyde that it would be eminently fitting for those interested in the scientific training of women to establish and maintain at Naples a table for the use of qualified American women who might wish to avail themselves of its opportunities for scientific research. This thought became definite when at the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Zoological Station in 1897, Dr. Dohrn asked for a permanent endowment fund and suggested that it take the form of endowed tables of research; each table to cost \$500 per annum and to be supplied by the station for this fee with materials for research and with service, the maintaining organization to have the privilege of assigning the table.

Shortly after the meeting, therefore, Miss Hyde proposed to establish an American Women's Table at Naples in recognition of the unfailing kindness and cooperation shown from the outset and at all times by Dr. Dohrn in according to women the privileges of the station upon equal terms with men.

Upon her return to America, Miss Hyde found many ready and eager to cooperate with her in the plan, not solely because of interest in the Zoological Station, but because of their desire to encourage young women in scientific research.

A committee was formed in the autumn of 1897, and a circular describing the place and asking for contributions was sent out by the following sponsors: Miss M. Carey Thomas, president of Bryn Mawr College, *chairman*; Miss Ida H. Hyde, Cornell University, *secretary*; Miss Louise Sheffield Brownell, warden of Sage College, Cornell University; Miss Florence M. Cushing, Vassar College; Miss Sarah E. Doyle, president of the Rhode Island Society for the Collegiate Education of Women; Miss Annie Crosby Emery, dean of women, University of Wisconsin; Miss Julia J. Irvine, president of Wellesley College; Miss Agnes Irwin, dean of Radcliffe College; Dr. Eliza M. Mosher, dean of women in the department of literature, science and the arts, University of Michigan; Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, president of the Women's Education Association of Boston; Mrs. Alice Upton Pearmain, president of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae; Mrs. Ellen H. Richards, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Miss Emily James Smith, dean of Barnard College; Miss Marion Talbot, dean of women, University of Chicago.

As a result of the circulars a meeting was held in Cambridge on April 14, 1898, and an organization, called at that time the Association for Maintaining the American Women's Table at the Zoological Station at Naples, was formed (several years later the name was changed to the Association to Aid Scientific Research by Women). As a result of this Cambridge meeting subscriptions of fifty dollars each were reported as having been received from the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, Bryn Mawr College, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Radcliffe College, Sage College of Cornell University, Smith, Wellesley and Vassar Colleges, the Committee on Science Lessons of the Women's Education Association of Boston, the Women's College of Baltimore, from Miss Lillian

V. Sampson, of Germantown, and Mrs. John Wescott, of Princeton, and a draft for \$500 was sent to Dr. Dohrn at Naples to maintain the American Women's Table at the Naples Station for the year 1898-99.

From its inception there was a balance in the treasury of the association over and above the \$500 paid yearly for the upkeep of the Naples Table, and for a time the association voted this in the form of grants to scholars working at the table. This plan was abandoned later in favor of the final policy of the association, which was to permit the surplus to accumulate until sufficient in amount to offer as a prize of encouragement for scientific research by women and ultimately, as a recognition of work accomplished. Thus, the Ellen Richards Research Prize, with a value of \$1,000, was established. This prize has been offered fourteen times, and has been awarded six times as follows: Dr. Florence Rena Sabin (U. S. A.); Dr. Nettie M. Stevens (U. S. A.); Dr. Florence Buchanan (England); Dr. Ida Smedley McLane (England); Dr. Eleanor Carothers (U. S. A.); Dr. Evelyn Laing (England). Later this prize was increased to \$2,000 and awarded to Madame Curie in 1921, and the 1928 \$2,000 prize was divided equally between Dr. Lisa Meitner, of the University of Berlin, and Dr. Ramert-Lucas, of the University of Paris.

Throughout the thirty-five years of its existence, the Association to Aid Scientific Research by Women was maintained by annual subscriptions of fifty dollars each. It met annually each April, by invitation from different members. Any institution, association, group of individuals or individual who subscribed fifty dollars annually might be elected to membership in the association during the continuance of the subscription. Each membership could nominate a voting representative to attend the annual April meeting. Its purpose has been to maintain a table for the use of women at the Zoological Station at Naples, and to

encourage and recognize, through its Ellen Richards Research Prize, successful achievement in scientific research by women.

As the guests of Dr. Florence R. Sabin at the American Woman's Club in New York on Saturday, April 30, twelve members of the Association to Aid Scientific Research by Women met to make the final award of the Ellen Richards Research Prize. The decision was a most difficult one, so again, as in 1928, the \$2,000 prize was equally divided, this time between the two distinguished American scholars, Dr. Helen Dean King, the biologist of the Wistar Institute, University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Annie Jump Cannon, the astronomer of the Harvard Observatory, Cambridge.

There being no further business, the following resolution, drafted by Dean Nicolson, of Smith College, President Pendleton, of Wellesley, and Dean Gildersleeve, of Barnard, was presented and carried:

Whereas, the objects for which this Association has worked for thirty-five years have been achieved, since women are given opportunities to engage in Scientific Research on an equality with men, and to gain recognition for their achievements, be it

Resolved, that this Association cease to exist after the adjournment of this meeting.

And thus, with the adjournment of the meeting, the Association to Aid Scientific Research by Women ceased to exist as an active organization. In the minds of those who have had the great happiness of attending its meetings and sharing in its activities, the association shall long live as one that has played a really vital part in the advancement of scientific research by women.

H. JEAN CRAWFORD,
Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

MEDICAL SCIENCES AT ATLANTIC CITY

THE program for Section N (Medical Sciences) at Atlantic City is practically complete. It will be devoted entirely to symposia on timely subjects of medical interest.

Dr. John J. Abel, president of the association, will lead a very important symposium on "The Present Knowledge of the Hypophysis Cerebri (Pituitary Body)," on Wednesday afternoon, December 28. Dr. Herbert M. Evans, of the University of California, will participate in this symposium by discussing the hormones of the anterior hypophysis. In presenting

a paper on the pituitary-gonad relationship, Dr. Philip E. Smith, of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, will point out the importance of the receptor organ and the method of administration of extracts. Dr. E. M. K. Geiling, of the Johns Hopkins University, will describe the functions of the posterior lobe of the pituitary body. Dr. George W. Corner, of the University of Rochester, Dr. Harvey W. Cushing, of Harvard University, and Dr. John J. Abel will take part in the discussions.

Dr. Wm. H. Park, chairman of Section N, has organized a symposium on tuberculosis for Wednesday