mendations on photometry for the official advisory committee.

The bureau has proposed the establishment of a system of photometric units based primarily upon the intensity of the light given by a "black body" radiator at the freezing point of platinum. The adoption of such a basic unit must be supplemented by agreement upon a method for measuring lights differing from that of the basic standard in color. The flicker photometer, with proper allowance for the characteristics of individual observers, affords one of the most simple and practical methods for making such measurements. Its use has, however, not been viewed with favor abroad. Consequently, a basis for international agreement is being sought in spectrophotometric measurements of colored filters, from which standard values for transmission of visible light can be calculated by means of "visibility factors" which have already been accepted by the International Commission on Illumination.

In both of these projects the National Physical Laboratory of Great Britain and the Bureau of Standards have been cooperating. Mr. Crittenden therefore visited London on his way to Paris in order to compare experimental results found at the bureau with those of the British laboratory. These two laboratories have joined in proposing that the new units in electricity and in light be put into general use on January 1, 1935. An alternative proposal is that their introduction be deferred until 1937. The most important duties of the 1933 meeting are to choose between these dates and to agree upon a definite schedule for carrying out the series of comparisons and interchange of standards which will be necessary.

THE PRIESTLEY LECTURES AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE

THE seventh annual Priestley Lectures at the Pennsylvania State College will be given at 7:30 P. M., on April 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Two memorials to Joseph Priestley have been established by the faculty and alumni of the department of chemistry: 1. In 1919 the alumni of the department purchased the old Priestley residence at Northumberland, Pennsylvania, about seventy miles from the college. They have built near the house a museum to hold such Priestley relics as can be gathered together. The alumni have assumed responsibility for the maintenance of the whole property in recognition of Joseph Priestley's contributions to early American chemistry. 2. An annual series of lectures was inaugurated by members of the faculty in 1926, bearing the name of the Priestley Lectures. These lectures deal each year with the border-line between physical chemistry and some other branch of science.

In 1931, Phi Lambda Upsilon (honorary chemical fraternity) undertook the financial support of the Priestley Lectures. These lectures, therefore, now constitute a joint memorial to Joseph Priestley on the part of both the faculty of the Department of Chemistry and the Honorary Fraternity of Phi Lambda Upsilon.

This year's lectures deal with the border-line between physical chemistry and metallurgy. They will be given by Professor Eric R. Jette, of the School of Mines of Columbia University.

The former Priestley Lectures are as follows:

The first year's lectures dealt with the border-line between physical chemistry and biocolloids. They were given by V. Cofman, of the Experimental Station of E. I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company.

The second year's lectures dealt with the border-line between physical chemistry and metallography. They were given by Dr. S. L. Hoyt, of the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company.

The third year's lectures dealt with the border-line between physical chemistry and medicine. They were given by Dr. H. B. Williams, head of the department of physiology of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

The fourth year's lectures dealt with the border-line between physical chemistry and ceramics. They were given by Dr. Louis Navias, of the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company.

The fifth year's lectures dealt with the borderline between physical chemistry and electrical engineering. They were given by Dr. John W. Williams, assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Wisconsin.

The sixth year's lectures dealt with the border-line between physical chemistry and biological chemistry. They were given by Dr. Victor K. LaMer, associate professor of chemistry of Columbia University.

THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

THE International Geological Congress will hold its sixteenth session in Washington, D. C., from July 22 to 29.

The project of holding an International Geological Congress originated in connection with the Centennial Exposition of 1876 at Philadelphia. A Founders' Committee was formed in that year with James Hall, state geologist of New York and one of America's foremost geologists, as its president. The committee included T. Sterry Hunt, of Canada, as secretary, six other members from the United States and Canada, and one each from England, Sweden and Holland. Thomas Henry Huxley was the member from England. This committee asked the Geological Society of France to cooperate in preparing for a congress at the Paris Exposition in 1878 and the French society appointed an organization committee on July 27, 1877.