

science and history, when brought before the public, must be presented in terms that interest the public and that the public understand. The public is not interested in the slow progress of a great army or in the progress of the great mass of scientific workers. But it is interested in results, especially spectacular results.

We who are engaged in scientific work are fortunate in having the results of our labors presented in the press by a corps of able and conscientious writers in whom we are justified in placing complete confidence. If, in order to interest the public, these writers must lay emphasis on points that are quite different from the points that we in talking among ourselves would emphasize, that is their responsibility. So long as what they write is accurate, we have no valid reason for objection. This fact is now very generally realized and appreciated.

At Chicago the functions of the Press Service will be carried on as heretofore. Those who are to present papers are asked to send two copies of their manuscripts, each accompanied by an abstract, to the American Association for the Advancement of Science Press Service, Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C., as far in advance of the meeting as possible. A single copy of the manuscript will not suffice, and both copies are to be sent to the same address.

The manuscripts sent to the Press Service are not for publication as such. They are solely for the use of the press representatives in the preparation of news items or features. They are regarded as confidential, and except for the properly accredited press representatives no one is allowed access to them.

So far as possible the Press Service endeavors to supply the press with such additional information as will be advantageous in the proper presentation of a news item, and it also aids the press in securing interviews with authors when such interviews are requested.

The press is by far the most important medium for the diffusion of scientific knowledge among the people as a whole. It has become the outstanding factor in the education of those beyond school age and is an increasingly important factor in broadening the knowledge and interests of those still in school.

The press is conscientiously doing its best to make as accurate and as timely as possible the information that it presents. It is becoming increasingly important that we who are occupied with scientific work should do all we can to help it.

MEMBERSHIP

The unusual privileges accorded members at the Chicago meeting make it desirable for all to register early to receive the full program and the badge which

will admit to the various special functions. Registration on this occasion will be handled at the Stevens Hotel and at branch registration offices in Eckhardt Hall, University of Chicago, and in Thorne Hall, McKinloch Campus, Northwestern University.

Since it was felt that many in the Middle West would desire to participate in this meeting and enjoy especially the privileges of contact with the distinguished foreign guests, a special invitation has been extended to those living within 300 miles of Chicago to join the association at this time without payment of the usual initiation fee. Persons desiring to take advantage of this offer should address the Washington office in advance or make application at any registration desk during the meeting.

INVITED GUESTS

Scientific men or women coming from outside the United States and Canada who are not members of the association may be welcomed as guests for the meeting. Information concerning such persons should be sent to the permanent secretary's office in Washington or later to him at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago. Full data are desired that the cases may be properly presented to the executive committee and official invitations duly authorized and issued.

BUSINESS SESSIONS

The council is charged with the duty of handling the business of the association and has provided that all matters offered for its consideration be referred first to the executive committee for study and formulation. Any items may be sent to the Washington office up to June 10. After that date they should be sent to the Chicago headquarters, Hotel Stevens, in care of the permanent secretary. The executive committee will meet in the Stevens Hotel on Monday, June 19, at 10 A. M., to review items previously presented and to prepare the agenda for the council. The first council meeting will be held on Monday afternoon at 2 P. M. Subsequent meetings of the council will be held at 9 A. M. on Tuesday and Wednesday, and thereafter if necessary. The executive committee will also meet daily to care for business matters that may demand attention. In view of the difficulties necessarily associated with careful consideration of important questions it is desirable that all proposals be left with the permanent secretary as early as feasible.

HOTEL HEADQUARTERS AND TRANSPORTATION

Data regarding hotel headquarters were printed in *SCIENCE* for May 12. Reduced railway rates by the "certificate plan certificate" have been granted by almost all railroads in the United States and Canada. Persons attending the meeting should purchase a first-

class one-way ticket to Chicago, securing a "certificate plan certificate" reading "for the American Association for the Advancement of Science and Associated Societies." The certificate must be left at the validation desk in the registration offices to be called for later at the same place. Each person presenting an endorsed and validated certificate may purchase a continuous passage, one way return ticket for *one third* of the regular fare by the same route as that traveled to Chicago. Certificates must be validated before July 4. Tickets to Chicago must be purchased between June 15 and June 28 (both dates inclusive). Return tickets must be purchased by July 4; having purchased the return ticket its holder can remain in Chicago at will, provided he reaches the original starting point within thirty days.

Special fares of varied character have already been announced by certain lines and probably more such will be offered before the date of our meetings. Information about these rates and the precise conditions of issue and use may best be secured from your local agent. Early application is advisable. It is likely that special ten-day rates will be preferable, except for persons desiring to make a longer stay in Chicago.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS OF SECTIONS AND SOCIETIES

Sections are arranged in the order of the alphabetic designations used in the association's records. Affiliated societies are given the letter of the section under which each is listed, together with a distinguishing number. The president and secretary of each society are named, and they represent the organization on the council of the association, unless other representatives have been elected and are present to serve at Chicago. It is hoped that the societies may all be well represented at council meetings in order to facilitate prompt and proper transaction of business.

The programs as outlined are not complete, but they are in the main correct and adequate to give a true conception of the final program.

A—Mathematics

- A-1. Section A of the Association. June 21-23.
Vice-president, Charles N. Moore; *Secretary*, E. R. Hedrick.
- A-2. American Mathematical Society. June 19-23.
President, L. P. Eisenhart; *Secretary*, R. G. D. Richardson.
- A-3. Mathematical Association of America. June 20-23.
President, E. T. Bell; *Secretary*, W. D. Cairns.

The program of the American Mathematical Society will open on Monday, the morning being devoted to registration and the afternoon to a session of con-

tributed papers. On Tuesday morning there will be another session of contributed papers. On Tuesday afternoon the Mathematical Association of America is planning a program at which the following papers will be presented: "The Postulation Method in Mathematics," by Professor E. V. Huntington, of Harvard University; "The Lag of Mathematics behind Literature and Art in the Early Centuries," by Professor H. E. Slaughter, of the University of Chicago; "Applications of Mathematics to Real Estate Problems," by Dr. Henry Babcock, of Evanston. On Wednesday morning Section A and the American Mathematical Society will hold a joint symposium, at which Professor Lipot Fejer, of the University of Budapest, will speak on "The Infinite Sequences Arising in the Theories of Harmonic Analysis, of Interpolation and of Mechanical Quadratures," and Professor C. N. Moore, of the University of Cincinnati, will give a paper entitled "On the Use of Cesaro Means in Determining Criteria for Fourier's Constants." One other speaker has been invited to participate in this meeting. Wednesday afternoon will be devoted to a joint session of Section A and the society, at which invited addresses on geometry will be given. Professor Levi-Civita, of the University of Rome, will speak on "Nets on a Surface and Extension of Trigonometry," and Professor W. C. Graustein, of Harvard University, will give a paper entitled "Invariant Methods in Differential Geometry." Two other speakers have been invited to participate. On Thursday morning the American Mathematical Society will hold a meeting devoted to short contributed papers. For Thursday afternoon the Mathematical Association of America is planning a program in which the following men will present papers: Dr. T. C. Fry, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, on "Fundamental Concepts in the Theory of Probability"; Professor George D. Birkhoff, of Harvard University, on "Mathematics and Art"; Dr. D. H. Lehmer, of the California Institute of Technology, on "A Number Theory Machine." On Friday morning there will be a joint session of Section A and the American Mathematical Society, at which Professor Levi-Civita will give a lecture on "Some Mathematical Aspects of the New Mechanics" and Professor G. D. Birkhoff on "Quantum Mechanics and Asymptotic Series." This meeting will be of special interest to the members of the American Physical Society, although they are not meeting jointly with Section A. For Friday afternoon the American Mathematical Society has arranged for a lecture by Professor L. E. Dickson, of the University of Chicago, on "Recent Progress in Additive Number Theory," which will be followed by short papers on number theory. A dinner for the mathematicians is planned for Friday evening.