

crosses though late, formed pretty roots. The leaves differed in appearance from those of Swedes, and did not, like them, retain the rain water on their surface. In the following spring they were set for seed in two different situations where no extraneous pollen might have access. The flowers of the greater part were of the bright yellow of the two male parents; a smaller portion of each lot produced a straw-color blossom, like that of the Swede; but not one shewed the least disposition to an intermediate tint; and it seemed as if those two colours were incapable of blending, or modifying each other.

William Herbert, a brilliant divine and scholar, carried on his plant researches as a hobby. His monograph on the "Amaryllidaceae" is a landmark on the phylogeny of this group, and his extensive work in plant breeding, mostly with *Amaryllidaceae*, and other ornamentals, has placed him in the same rank as Thomas Andrew Knight, a pioneer plant breeder.

HAMILTON P. TRAUB

"MIRA FLORES"  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

#### THE GANESH PRASAD PRIZE

THE great interest shown by Hindu scholars during the last few years in the history of mathematics in India is well known. During nearly a century the subject had been so neglected as to give the impression that such early English writers as Colebrooke and

Taylor had exhausted the subject. Among the later Hindu translators of the early works the first of the outstanding Hindu scholars was Rangacarya, whose edition of Mahavir is well known. There have also been a number of later scholars who have published certain expository articles upon the history of the subject and have thus awakened a new interest in various semi-forgotten works of merit. Several of their contributions have appeared in such publications as the *American Mathematical Monthly* and the *Scripta Mathematica*, and others are promised for the new series about to appear under the name of *Osiris*, sponsored by the History of Science Society.

In view of the present activities shown by Hindu scholars it is interesting to know that the Calcutta Mathematical Society has recently announced for the subject of the competition for the "Krishna Kumari-Ganesh Prasad Prize and Medal" the following: "Lives and works of the ten Famous Hindu Mathematicians: Aryabhata, Varamihir, Bhaskara I, Lalla, Brahmagupta, Sridhar, Mahavir, Sripati, Bhaskara II, Narayana." (Spellings of proper names as in the announcement.)

In view of the excellence of various recent articles by Hindu scholars, it may be expected that the winner in the contest will offer to the English-speaking world a work of outstanding importance.

DAVID EUGENE SMITH

## THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

### MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

THE regular spring meeting of the executive committee was held in New York City on April 14, 1935, in the office of The Science Press, Grand Central Terminal, with the following members present: Dr. Cattell, *chairman*, Drs. Caldwell, Compton, Conklin, Curtiss, Livingston, McKinley, Ward, Wilson and Woods. Dr. Hildebrand was excused for absence.

It was reported for record that minutes of the last meeting held in Pittsburgh in December were approved by mail.

The following resolutions, drawn up by the treasurer, laid before the executive committee in December and held over for further study, were brought up for final action and after amendment adopted in the following form as representing the general policy of the council:

No expenditure shall be authorized or made from the permanent funds of the association in the keeping of the treasurer except in pursuance of a previous action by the council or by the executive committee under Article IV, Section 1, of the by-laws.

The council at the annual meeting in each year shall make general appropriations for the current fiscal year; but nothing contained herein shall prevent the council making special appropriations at any meeting.

It shall be the duty of the finance committee to provide for the safe custody of all financial resources of the association and to determine all matters relating to purchase and sale of its securities. It shall consider and recommend to the council from time to time such measures as in its opinion will promote the financial interests of the association.

The need of a change in the present financial arrangement in payment of subsidies to affiliated academies, as previously announced at Atlantic City and Pittsburgh, was studied, and after considerable discussion it was voted that in lieu of allowances sums should be paid to affiliated academies in the form of grants for research. Dr. Livingston, the general secretary and the permanent secretary were appointed a committee to perfect the plan.

The general secretary, Dr. Caldwell, presented a report on the work thus far done in establishing local