tension. Lord Rayleigh then added that the latter part of her letter seemed to him very suggestive, raising, if it did not fully answer, many important questions. Then for a few years he arranged for the publication of all her work in English, until the Germany of another era (1898) was proud to accept her discoveries for publication in her own language.[3]

When we state that the significance of the subject of surface tension lies in the fact that salts in solution arrange themselves in a monomolecular layer at the surface, and that the relation of every cell in the body to its surrounding medium depends upon this arrangement, we shall not have to stress further the importance of surface tension or its discovery. Agnes Pockels was one of the founders of our knowledge of this branch of physical chemistry, and none can read her letter to Lord Rayleigh and question her originality. She is now over seventy and I like to think that as she reflects on the new restrictions on the mental life of women in her country, she must know that no edict of government can subtract the fine product of her thought from the assets of mankind.

Here in Bryn Mawr College you will know the third example before she is mentioned. Emmy Noether is admitted by her peers into that small group of the world's greatest mathematicians. She was one of that brilliant group of mathematicians at Göttingen whom fate has scattered into many lands. Her field was algebra. Professor Einstein has said of her that she discovered methods which have proved of enormous importance in the development of the present-day younger generation of mathematicians; and Professor Weyl, that she originated a new and epoch-making style of thinking in algebra and, perhaps most significant of all in speaking of a woman, that her strength lay in her ability to operate abstractly with concepts. One can not read the account of her work, given by Weyl at the Memorial Service to her here at Bryn Mawr last spring, without realizing the great beauty of her power of thought. Nature endowed her with that creative insight which is only to be described by the strongest word in our language, "genius."

She was one of the great minds of our time and, when this is fully realized, then the turn of fortune, sinister and weighted with ill-will, that lost her a chance to work in her own country, yet brought her here, will be seen to have its bright side. What a happy event that Miss Thomas, with her passionate belief in women, knows that the one woman of our generation to whom the name "genius" can be applied unequivocally "on the same terms as men," should have been added to the faculty of Bryn Mawr College!

And now, President Park, Einstein has said that the last eighteen months of Emmy Noether's life, spent as they were on your faculty, were the happiest and the most fruitful of her career. Surely these words are your enduring reward. And it is clear enough that your influence has not been limited to the walls of Bryn Mawr College. All women everywhere who care for the things of the mind are in your debt. I feel especially happy that this occasion gives me the chance to be spokesman of our gratitude. Our d is not only because throughout your administrat you have held up the high traditions of this colle but far more because during a period of history wh powerful forces, to use a significant medical ter seek to sensitize the mind of the whole world to prej dice, you have shown that you place intellect first.

[3] An account of her life and her bibliography are given in *Kolloid-Zeitschrift*, 58: 1, 1932.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BIOCHEMICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

THE Biochemical Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute has been formed in Philadelphia by the separation of the Cancer Research Laboratories from the University of Pennsylvania. The new foundation will have for its aims: (1) the study of disease from a chemical point of view, (2) the study of new organic compounds for their therapeutic, medicinal and curative values and (3) the study of longevity and the diseases of age with the hope of prolonging the span of life.

The new foundation, which will be a sister institution to the Bartol Research Foundation for Physics, is under the director, Dr. Ellice McDonald, and consists of forty-three workers occupying forty-seven rooms and is divided into three departments: The Department of Chemistry, Dr. E. F. Schroeder, chief; The Department of Physics, Dr. A. J. Allen, chief, and The Department of Cytology, Dr. J. O. Ely, chief. There will eventually be added departments of pharmacological research, of synthetic and organic chemistry and of therapeutics.

The new Biochemical Research Foundation will remain for the present in its former quarters, 133 South Thirty-sixth Street, Philadelphia. It maintains in addition two outside laboratories. A volume recording the work of the past year, comprising thirty-three scientific papers, will be issued in January.

AWARDS OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

THE eighty-third meeting of the American Society of Civil Engineers will be held in the Engineering