

FROM the earliest times the pitcherplants, conspicuous, strange and beautiful among the wild flowers of America, have excited the wonder and admiration of those who knew them. With their water-holding leaves and their evident equipment for attracting, trapping, holding and killing insects, they have always stimulated human curiosity. To the older interest has now been added the knowledge that some, at least, of the species digest the insects they have caught and utilize the product for the plant's own nourishment. Mrs. Walcott now publishes fifteen full-page colored illustrations covering all the known North American species, each with a descriptive text, and to this have been added maps and text by Dr. Edgar T. Wherry,

showing the geographic distribution of the species, and a description, by Dr. Frank Morton Jones, of the marvelous interrelationship between pitcherplants and insects, the insects that they catch and utilize for food, the insects that pollinate their flowers, and the insects that live and thrive in the same pitchers that kill and digest other insects. Mrs. Walcott has produced a book that not only is a work of art, from the beauty and fidelity of its illustrations, but is a fountain of scientific knowledge regarding these amazing plants, and she also has told how they may be grown in our greenhouses, so that we may watch them at their insect-catching operations.

FREDERICK V. COVILLE

SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

THE SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE sixteenth annual meeting of the Southwestern Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was held from April 26 to April 30, at Flagstaff and the Grand Canyon, Arizona, in conjunction with the Third Annual Tree-Ring Conference, Southwestern Section of the Society of American Foresters, Ecological Society of America and the Southwestern Conservation League. Host institutions were the Arizona State Teachers College at Flagstaff, the Museum of Northern Arizona, the Lowell Observatory and the National Park Service at the Grand Canyon.

Attendance was unusually large, as was also the number of scientists giving papers. The local committee especially should be congratulated for their efficient handling of the meeting, which, in addition to the unexpectedly large number of registrants, came at the beginning of the tourist season for Flagstaff.

In addition to the usual section meetings for presentation of papers, features of the meeting were: The address by the retiring president, Dr. Harold S. Colton, on "The Rise and Fall of the Prehistoric Population of Northern Arizona," and the John Wesley Powell Lecture, by Dr. J. C. Merriam, on "The Wilderness as a Teacher, Preacher, and Companion—a Study of the Contribution Made by a Great National Park"; the opening of the new quarters of the Museum of Northern Arizona and the reception at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Colton; the inspection of the Lowell Observatory; excursions to nearby points of interest; and, lastly, the excursions conducted by Park officials on the last day at the Grand Canyon.

At the business meeting at the end of the sessions, resolutions of thanks were sent to host institutions and

to the officials at the Grand Canyon. Officers for the coming year are as follows:

President: F. E. E. Germann, University of Colorado, Boulder.

Vice-President: E. D. Ball, University of Arizona, Tucson.

The present Secretary-Treasurer was continued for another year.

Executive Committee: O. C. Lester, University of Colorado, Boulder (1937); E. F. Carpenter, University of Arizona, Tucson (1938); S. A. Northrop, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque (1938); F. W. Sparks, Texas Technological College, Lubbock (1939); and D. S. Robbins, State College, New Mexico (1939).

Biological Science Section: *Chairman,* R. J. Gilmore, Colorado College, Colorado Springs; *vice-chairman,* Donald M. Crooks, University of Arizona, Tucson; *Secretary,* R. H. Canfield, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Mathematics Section: *Chairman,* Paul K. Rees, State College, New Mexico; *vice-chairman,* C. A. Barnhart, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque; *Secretary,* W. M. Craig, Texas Technological College, Lubbock.

Social Sciences: *Chairman,* F. H. Douglas, Denver Art Museum, Denver; *Secretary,* W. S. Stallings, Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe.

The meeting of the division for 1937 will be held in conjunction with the Pacific Division and the parent association at Denver. Meeting places for 1938 and 1939 will be at Alpine, Texas, and Tucson, Arizona, with final decision as to which place will be associated with which date to be made later.

VEON C. KIECH,
Secretary-Treasurer

THE MINNESOTA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE Minnesota Academy of Science held its fourth annual meeting as the guests of Carleton and St. Olaf Colleges at Northfield, Minnesota, on April 18, 1936. At the general meetings approximately 400 persons