The Problem of Phytohormones and the Metabolism, Professor V. J. Konigsberger.

The Notion of Phytohormones: their Relations to Stimulants and the Irritability of Plants, Professor George S. Avery.

The Action of Phytohormones on Growth, Cell Division and Organo-Genesis, Professor R. Bouillenne.

Phytohormones and the Movements of Plants, Professor Boysen Jensen.

Influence of Animal Hormones on Plants, Professor Zollikofer.

Correlations and Phytohormones, Professor R. Dostal.

Nomenclature of Phytohormones, Dr. Janot.

The question of the nomenclature of phytohormones gave rise to an exhaustive discussion and definite results were reached.

The reports, and the discussions to which they gave rise, will be published under the auspices of the institute and of the International Union after revision by Professor Boysen Jensen before publication.

A second meeting will be held at Copenhagen at the end of September, 1939. Professors Boysen Jensen, Laibach and Koningsberger have been invited to organize this meeting from the technical point of view, in collaboration with the union.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AUDUBON SOCIETIES

THE National Association of Audubon Societies held its thirty-third annual convention at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City from October 22 to 26. The convention opened on the evening of October 22, with a reunion dinner of the Audubon Nature Camp established two years ago on Hog Island in Muscongus Bay, Maine, where teachers of wild-life appreciation and conservation are given an opportunity to observe wild life to receive instruction in leading nature study groups. On Saturday and Sunday field trips were conducted by members of the staff to sanctuaries at Cape May Point, N. J., and to Montauk Point, L. I.

The sessions were held on October 25 and 26. Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson, president emeritus, spoke on the need of bird protection in Mexico and the islands of the Caribbean Sea; Robert P. Allen, sanctuary director, gave an illustrated account of Texas coast sanctuaries, and Victor H. Cahalane, of the National Park Service, discussed the status of the Big Bend National Park in Texas. The afternoon session was devoted to a summary of present and prospective wild-life research activities throughout the nation. The speakers included: W. L. McAtee, of the U. S. Biological Survey; A. A. Nichol, of the University of Arizona; James Tanner, of Cornell University; Dr. Homer L. Shantz, chief of the Wildlife Division of the U. S. Forest Service. I. T. Bode, of the Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, spoke on the nature education and conservation promotion activities among the farm boys and girls of the 4-H Clubs.

On Tuesday afternoon Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the U. S. Biological Survey, summarized the present status of migratory water-fowl in the country and discussed measures necessary for their protection in order to preserve certain species from extinction. This was followed by a discussion of Florida birds when four of the sanctuary wardens of the association described their experiences in guarding the rare birds of southern Florida.

The annual dinner was held in the evening at Essex House. Sound films of birds photographed in their native habitats were shown by Dr. Arthur A. Allen, professor of ornithology at Cornell University. Special emphasis was placed on the better-known species, so that the average amateur might be able to identify familiar species. Color films were also shown of spectacular birds indigenous to the tropical regions of Florida and Texas. These pictures were presented in connection with the campaign to bring about the immediate establishment in Florida of the proposed Everglades National Park and in Texas of the Big Bend National Park, before commercial exploitation and unchecked hunting make those areas unfit for the purpose.

THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

THE forty-third summer meeting and the twentieth colloquium of the American Mathematical Society was held at the Pennsylvania State College from September 7 to 10 in conjunction with the summer meeting of the Mathematical Association of America. About 475 persons attended the meetings, of which 275 are members of the society.

Four colloquium lectures on "Continuous Geometry" were delivered by Professor John von Neumann, of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. The attendance at these lectures was 169. They will be published by the society in book form. Professor Hassler Whitney, of Harvard University, gave an invited address entitled "Topological Properties of Differentiable Manifolds."

Seven sessions for brief reports on individual research work were held during which a hundred and one such reports were presented.

Detailed preparations were made for the semi-centennial meeting of the society to be held in New York City from September 6 to 9, next year. An excellent scientific and social program has been planned, and the largest attendance in the history of the society is expected. Committees were also appointed to make

arrangements for the International Congress of Mathematicians to be held in Cambridge, Mass., early in September, 1940.

The Mathematical Association of America met on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, September 6 and 7. At the closing session, Professor G. A. Bliss gave an address on the life and work of Professor Herbert Ellsworth Slaught (1861–1937). The Mathematical Association of America was founded in 1916 under the inspiration and guidance of Professor Slaught.

The arrangements made by the department of mathematics and other departments of the Pennsylvania State College for the convenience and entertainment of the visiting mathematicians and their guests left nothing to be desired. The joint dinner of the two mathematical organizations at the Nittany Lion Inn was attended by three hundred and eleven persons. A special luncheon for women mathematicians was held in honor of the women who were pioneers in mathematical research in America.

T. R. HOLLCROFT,
Associate Secretary

LECTURES OF THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

THE third series entitled "Lectures to the Laity" of the New York Academy of Medicine, of which Dr. James Alexander Miller is president, opened on October 28. The title of the present series is "The Art and Romance of Medicine." The lectures will be given at 8:15 P. M. The program is as follows:

October 28. "From Barber-Surgeons to Surgeons—The Evolution of Surgery as a Profession," Dr. Francis R. Packard, editor of *Annals of Medical History.*

November 24. "The Meaning of Medical Research," Dr. Alfred E. Cohn, member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

December 23. "Dr. Watson and Mr. Sherlock Holmes," Dr. Harrison Stanford Martland, professor of forensic medicine, New York University College of Medicine.

January 27. "Medicine in the Middle Ages," Dr. James J. Walsh, extension professor, Fordham University.

February 24. "The Search for Longevity," Dr. Raymond Pearl, professor of biology, the Johns Hopkins University.

March 24. "The Physicists' Contribution to Medicine," Dr. Edward Elway Free, consulting physicist.

April 28. "Medicine and the Progress of Civilization," Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president, Columbia University.

May 26. "X-Ray within the Memory of Man," Dr. Lewis Gregory Cole, consulting roentgenologist, Fifth Avenue Hospital.

IN HONOR OF DR. JOHN H. NORTHROP

DR. JOHN H. NORTHROP, of the laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, Princeton, N. J., was presented with the Charles Frederick Chandler Medal of Columbia University for "fundamental discoveries concerning bacteria, the constitution of proteins, and the chemistry of digestion" on October 27. Following the presentation, Dr. Northrop delivered the fourth in a series of Chandler Memorial Lectures, taking as his subject "The Chemical Nature and Mode of Formation of Pepsin, Trypsin and Bacteriophage." Dean George B. Pegram presided at the presentation ceremony.

The medal was founded in 1910 to honor Professor Chandler, called the father of the American Chemical Society, who was born in 1836 and who for more than half a century was a pioneer in the advancement of public health and in industrial chemistry. He directed the teaching of chemistry at Columbia, where he was a founder of the School of Mines.

The report of the Committee on the Chandler Lectureship Foundation, which nominated the medalist and of which Professor Arthur W. Thomas is chairman, is as follows:

> Dr. Northrop's researches have opened an important road to the investigation of protein constitution and the chemistry of digestion. He was the first to isolate the digestive enzymes, pepsin and trypsin, as well as their respective proferments in crystalline and apparently pure condition. He is also known for his studies of phosphoric acid in starch.
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> His experience made it possible for Dr. W. M. Stanley, of the Rockefeller Institute, to isolate in crystalline form the virus for the tobacco mosaic disease. This crystalline protein may have far-reaching significance in understanding diseases due to different viruses.
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> His work on fermentation led to the development of a process for the production of acetone and ethyl alcohol, which solved one of the problems connected with the manufacture of war materials.

Dr. Northrop and his father, the late John I. Northrop, of the department of zoology of Columbia University, both studied under Professor Chandler. Dr. Northrop was born in Yonkers, N. Y., on July 5, 1891. He received the bachelor of science degree from Columbia University in 1912, the master of arts in 1913, and the doctorate in 1915. Harvard University conferred upon him the honorary degree of doctor of science during the tercentenary celebration last year. Since 1916 he has been associated with the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Chemical Society, the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, the Harvey Society, Sigma Xi, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Delta Kappa Epsilon, the Kaiser Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher and of the editorial board of the *Journal of General Physiology.*

Previous recipients of the medal include Leo H.