

meeting at the John Marshall Hotel to make plans for entertaining and accommodating the large delegation. Members of this committee include: G. T. French, state entomologist, Virginia Department of Agriculture, in charge of exhibits; Harry G. Walker, Virginia Truck Experiment Station, Norfolk, banquet; Professor J. W. Bailey, department of biology, University of Richmond, group meetings; Paul D. Sanders, editor, *Southern Planter*, publicity, and W. D. Reed, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, chairman. Dr. E. N. Cory, professor of entomology at the

University of Maryland, representing entomologists, visited Richmond in January to inspect rooming and meeting facilities.

Dr. A. L. Melander, of the City College of New York, is president, and Dr. C. E. Mickel, of the University of Minnesota, is secretary of the Entomological Society of America, which has a membership of 1,000. The American Association of Economic Entomologists has a membership of about 1,200, including 50 members in foreign countries. Professor J. J. Davis, of Purdue University, is president and Dr. Cory is secretary of this group.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A TESTIMONIAL dinner was given under the auspices of the Philippine Community of Washington, in honor of Professor Frank Lamson-Scribner, first director of agriculture in the Philippines, at Washington, D. C., on February 5. Harry T. Edwards, formerly director of agriculture in the Philippines, and Dr. Elmer D. Merrill, first director of the Philippine Bureau of Science, were the principal speakers. Among those present who also spoke were Quintin Paredes, Philippine commissioner in Washington, and José Romero, majority floor leader in the Philippines. Dr. Lamson-Scribner died on February 22.

DR. ALFRED NEWTON RICHARDS, for twenty-eight years professor of pharmacology at the University of Pennsylvania, received on March 9 the Philadelphia Award, which was presented to him at the Academy of Music in recognition of his work on kidney action. The award, established by Edward W. Bok, consists of \$10,000, a gold medallion and an engrossed scroll. Dr. Edwin G. Conklin, of Princeton University, executive vice-president of the American Philosophical Society, made the presentation, and the principal address was given by Waldemar B. Kaempffert, science editor of *The New York Times*.

DR. PHOEBUS A. LEVENE, member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research for twenty-one years, received the William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society at a joint dinner of the section and the Society of Chemical Industry on March 11 at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

THE Institute of Metals, London, has made the first award of its new medal to Sir William Bragg, president of the Royal Society. The presentation was made on March 8. The medal—in platinum—is given for outstanding services to non-ferrous metallurgy.

THE council of the British Iron and Steel Institute has awarded the Bessemer Gold Medal for 1938 to Dr. C. H. Desch, superintendent of the National Physi-

cal Laboratory, Teddington. The presentation will be made at the annual general meeting of the institute on May 4. Dr. Desch has long been distinguished as a teacher of metallurgical chemistry. In 1932 he was appointed to succeed the late Dr. W. Rosenhain as superintendent of the metallurgical department of the National Physical Laboratory.

DR. GUSTAVUS A. EISEN, of New York City, the oldest living corporate member of the California Academy of Sciences, was elected an honorary member of the academy at its annual meeting on February 16. Dr. Eisen has published researches in zoology, cytology, botany, archeology and art history. In 1890, through the California Academy of Sciences, he initiated the movement to set aside the area containing the Sequoia Grove of Big Trees in the Sierra Nevada as the Sequoia National Park.

SIR ALBERT SEWARD, formerly master of Downing College and professor of botany in the University of Cambridge, has been elected a trustee of the British Museum.

Nature states that Dr. Eugen Fischer, professor of anthropology at the University of Berlin, and Dr. Hermann Lautensach, professor of geography at Greifswald, have been nominated for honorary doctorates by the University of Coimbra.

OFFICERS of the American Microscopical Society for 1938 were elected at the Indianapolis meeting as follows: *President*, Dr. C. W. Dodge, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis; *First Vice-president*, Dr. F. E. Eggleton, University of Michigan; *Second Vice-president*, Dr. Harold Kirby, University of California; *Secretary*, Dr. J. E. Ackert, Kansas State College, Manhattan; *Treasurer*, Dr. A. M. Chickering, Albion College, Michigan. Dr. Ackert and Dr. Chickering were elected members of the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

At the meeting at Baltimore of the Wildlife Society on February 14 officers elected were: *President*, A. A. Allen, Cornell University; *Vice-president*, T. H. Langlois, Ohio; *Secretary*, Victor H. Cahalane, Washington, D. C., and *Treasurer*, Warren W. Chase, Des Moines, Iowa. W. L. McAtee was reappointed editor of the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. W. L. Finley was elected a trustee and E. B. Komarek and James Moffitt were elected to the membership committee. Among the results of the business meeting was the passage of a resolution calling upon authorities concerned to investigate and put into effect methods of control of the wilt (*Cephalosporium* sp.) which seemingly threatens the existence of the native American persimmon, an important wildlife food in the southeastern United States.

At the annual meeting of the California Academy of Sciences held on February 16 the result of the election of the academy for the year 1938 was announced as follows: *President*, Dr. F. M. MacFarland; *First Vice-president*, the Honorable Herbert Hoover; *Second Vice-president*, Dr. E. P. Meinecke; *Corresponding Secretary*, Dr. Charles L. Camp; *Recording Secretary*, Dr. Olaf P. Jenkins; *Treasurer*, Templeton Crocker; *Trustee*, Louis F. Monteagle, to serve five years. Dr. Chauncey D. Leake was appointed librarian by the council to succeed the late Dr. Emmet Rixford.

MAJOR-GENERAL E. W. C. BRADFIELD, director-general of the Indian Medical Service, has been elected president of the Medical Council of India.

DR. G. M. BENNETT, Firth professor of chemistry at the University of Sheffield, has been appointed to the university chair of chemistry tenable at King's College, London.

DR. E. J. WILLIAMS, Leverhulme Foundation lecturer at the University of Liverpool, has been appointed to the professorship of physics of University College, Aberystwyth, Wales.

PROFESSOR ALLEN C. TESTER has been granted two years' leave of absence from the State University of Iowa to accept a position as geologist in charge of a district for the Socony-Vacuum Company of Colombia.

THE President has approved the appointment of the following as delegates on the part of the United States to the ninth International Ornithological Congress, which will be held at Rouen, France, from May 9 to May 13: Alexander Wetmore, assistant secretary, Smithsonian Institution, in charge of the United States National Museum, *chairman of the delegation*; James P. Chapin, associate curator of Continental Old World birds, the American Museum of Natural History; James Cowan Greenway, Jr., assistant curator of

birds, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge; Lawrence E. Hicks, Bureau of the Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture, Columbus, Ohio, and T. Gilbert Pearson, president emeritus, National Association of Audubon Societies, New York.

DR. MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT, professor of organic chemistry in Columbia University, has been appointed an official delegate of the United States Government to the thirteenth conference of the International Union of Chemistry and the tenth International Congress of Chemistry, to be held jointly in Rome from May 15 to 21. Dr. Bogert will serve as president of the Section on Chemistry and National Defense of the congress and will deliver an address in Italian on "The Chemist as a Defender of His Fatherland" at the opening session. Professor Nicola Parravano, of Rome, is president of the congress.

FRANK TOSE, chief of exhibits of the Museum of the California Academy of Sciences, has recently returned from an eight months trip to Australia and New Zealand. Mr. Tose was sent by the Carnegie Corporation of New York to visit the principal museums of those countries and to extend advice and aid with the view of modernization of their natural history exhibits, especially of habitat groups. Aside from visits and personal conferences with museum directors and other officials, Mr. Tose conducted demonstration classes in museum technique for eight weeks each in Sydney and Wellington, which were attended by preparators and others connected with the different museums.

THE London *Times* reports that M. Jean Verhogen, of the University of Brussels, has arrived at Kivu by air to investigate the recent eruption of the Nyam-lagira volcano in the Belgian Congo on behalf of the Jacques Cassel Foundation and the Institute of National Parks.

DR. F. W. GAIL, head of the department of botany at the University of Idaho, has leave of absence this semester and is visiting England, Germany, France, Italy and Sweden. During his absence Dr. R. F. Daubenmire is in charge of the department.

DR. HERMANN WEYL, professor of mathematics of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, N. J., gave the eighth Joseph Henry lecture before the Philosophical Society of Washington on March 12. His subject was "Symmetry."

THE Gehrman Lectures of the University of Illinois for 1937-1938 will be delivered on March 23, 24 and 25 by Dr. Thomas M. Rivers, director of the Hospital of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York City. The subjects of the individual lectures will be: "Viruses and Virus Diseases"; "Cultiva-

tion of Vaccine Virus: Methods Employed, Types of Information Obtained, Jennerian Prophylaxis with Cultured Virus," "Poliomyelitis."

DR. W. F. G. SWANN, of the Bartol Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute, will give the annual Sigma Xi lecture at the Carnegie Institute of Technology on Saturday evening, April 2. He will discuss "What Has Become of Reality in Modern Physics?"

DR. FRANK C. WHITMORE, research professor of organic chemistry and dean of the School of Chemistry and Physics of the Pennsylvania State College, spoke on March 10 before the Lancaster Branch of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His subject was "Chemistry, a Blessing or What?"

DR. DAVID J. DAVIS, professor of pathology, head of the department of pathology, bacteriology and public health and dean of the College of Medicine of the University of Illinois, will deliver the second Christian Fenger Lecture of the Institute of Medicine of Chicago and the Chicago Pathological Society on Friday, March 25. His subject will be "Pathology as a Basis for the Study of Health."

DR. A. B. STOUT, of the New York Botanical Garden, gave an address on "Incompatibilities in Flowering Plants" on the evening of February 14, before the Plant Science Club of Yale University.

DR. M. A. TUVE, chief physicist of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, gave on March 1 at the institution an illustrated evening lecture on "The Forces which Govern the Atomic Nucleus."

DURING a recent visit to Lincoln, Nebr., Professor Paul J. Hanzlik, chairman of the department of pharmacology of Stanford University, made an address before the Society of Sigma Xi on "Purkinje's Pioneer Self-Experiments in Psycho-Pharmacology," and gave two lectures before the College of Pharmacy on "Antitoxic and Protective Actions of Dyes" and on "Oral Treatment and Control of Syphilis with Sobisminol, a New Bismuth Compound."

THE first Congress on the Chemistry of Wood and the fourth International Conference on Timber Utilization will be held jointly from July 5 to 8 in the House of Industry in Vienna.

THE fourteenth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science will be held under the presidency of Dr. George H. Ashley, state geologist for Pennsylvania, on April 15 and 16, at Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa. The Junior Academy of Science will meet simultaneously. The annual dinner and presidential address are scheduled for the evening of April 15. During the meetings the symposium on

"Methods of Teaching Science" is planned. Further information can be obtained from the secretary, Dr. V. Earl Light, Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pa.

THE Arizona Anthropological Association has been formed in Phoenix "for the purpose of sponsoring anthropological research and for the dissemination of any knowledge which might accrue from such research." The officers of the newly incorporated association are: Odd S. Halseth, *president*; Dr. R. E. Solosth, *chairman of the executive board*, and Thora Rollins, *secretary*. The headquarters of the association is the Pueblo Grande Laboratory. It already has considerable assets and plans are under way for the sponsoring of a major field project. This project will include both physical and social anthropology, as well as linguistic and ethno-botanical studies.

A NATIONAL exhibition of the works of John J. Audubon will open at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia on April 26. The exhibition will mark the one hundredth anniversary of the publication of the elephant folio of "The Birds of America" which was completed in London in 1838, and it will bring together a comprehensive collection of material from museums, universities and private collectors throughout the country. The exhibition will be divided into eight divisions: Audubon's personal relics, letters and journals, chalk and oil portraits of his friends, original paintings of the birds and early natural history sketches, original portraits of the quadrupeds, a display showing the steps in the production of the wild turkey plate, engravings from the elephant folio and the various editions that Audubon's work have appeared in.

DR. FREDERICK BEDELL, emeritus professor of physics of Cornell University, by a ruling of the New York State Court of Appeals, has received the award of \$100,000 previously made by referee's judgment, to recover money and royalties from the Dictograph Products on a bone-conduction hearing aid for the deaf.

IT has been decided to extend the time for filing applications for the Walter Rathbone Bacon scholarship of the Smithsonian Institution from March 15 to April 15. (See SCIENCE, March 4, p. 211.)

ACQUISITION of lands needed to complete the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee is authorized by a bill which has been signed by President Roosevelt. Approximately 410,000 acres within the park area have already been acquired by the Federal Government, principally by donation, leaving approximately 26,000 acres of privately owned lands yet to be acquired. Steps to acquire these lands will be taken by the department

when an appropriation is made by Congress pursuant to the authorization.

THE International Association of Milk Sanitarians has inaugurated the publication of the *Journal of Milk Technology*, a bi-monthly journal, to replace their annual yearbook series which had published the transactions of the association for the last twenty-five years. The new journal is the official organ of the association

and will publish the papers which will be presented at the annual meetings as well as contributed papers which deal with the technology of dairy products. All business matters such as advertising, subscriptions, reprints, etc., are handled by the managing editor, William B. Palmer, East Orange, N. J. All matters regarding manuscripts, editorials, news items, announcements and other reading material are handled by Dr. J. H. Shrader, of East Orange, N. J.

DISCUSSION

BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS—LAST CALL

A NEW board has taken hold of *Biological Abstracts*, made its study and reached a decision. *Biological Abstracts* must go on—go on not merely, but score an outstanding success! It's an obligation of simple decency, quite aside from scientific necessity.

We have asked and received a generous grant to help establish *Biological Abstracts* during the course of the past eleven years.

Even with emergency grants, together with some help from other sources, we are to-day earning only 40 per cent. of our expenses. At the end of eleven years just 700 American biologists are on the subscription list, and a grand total of but 2,000 copies, personal, institutional and industrial, are taken the world over, with 600 of these abroad. Though sponsored by the Union of American Biological Societies, only one of these twenty societies has made a regular contribution, and to the end of 1937 only this one had laid an assessment on its membership for the support of *Abstracts*.

How our fellow scientists shame us! For see: Every member of the American Psychological Association has half his dues of \$10 a year go to *Psychological Abstracts*, and he gets it. Something like \$3.50 of the physicist's dues in the American Physical Society goes to support *Science Abstracts*, while from the American Chemical Society's treasury as well as from industry heavy grants are made annually for the publication of *Chemical Abstracts*, to which there are nearly 12,500 subscribers.

This disgraceful situation challenged the pride of a little group of younger biologists, who late in the year accepted the duty of framing a new plan. Time was short. They had no opportunity for far-reaching studies. Immediate action was necessary. They hit upon the scheme so successfully operated by the H. W. Wilson Company, which among other things issues a series of periodical indices, to agricultural, art, educational and engineering journals. Here the charge is made to vary with the number of such journals taken.

Adapting this method to *Biological Abstracts*, the Committee on Arrangements set a subscription scale based on number, not of biological journals, but of biologists in the institutions. Thus

\$ 25.00	in case of	0- 3	biologists
45.00	" " "	4- 6	"
65.00	" " "	7-10	"
85.00	" " "	11-20	"
105.00	" " "	21-50	"
200.00	" " "	51-	"

with \$7.00 the charge for extra copies, including personal subscriptions in such institutions.

The plan met with sharp and organized opposition on the part of librarians. For it quickly appeared that, though they paid the Wilson bills, they were becoming increasingly restive under them and at the time had committees at work to secure relief. Ours was thus the straw to break the camel's back.

So at the instance of certain of their number, the committee shifted these quotas from library assessments to institutional subsidies, pledged to a two-year limit and a general flat rate thereafter if publication continued.

Despite the shift, however, somewhat less than \$23,000 has been received in subscription pledges. As much more is necessary even on a budget cut to the bone. Closing this gap is now a pressing claim of honor on every biologist in America. If *Biological Abstracts* is to be saved, it must be done before March is over. We can not afford to suspend the staff and interrupt the flow of journals. It is far easier and cheaper to strengthen a going concern than to resurrect a dead one. Unless new subscriptions are promptly pledged (not necessarily paid now), moneys on hand for 1938 will be returned to subscribers.

The problem belongs to the biologists. This is a last call on the biological organizations or biological leaders in all institutions to take *immediate steps* for securing the required quotas from their respective institutions. This means at least an agreement with the librarian in each case and perhaps with the general administration as to how the charge is to be met. It has been suggested that the library's minimum share should be \$25, though many in the emergency will be glad to assume a much larger portion or even all. But the obligation is the biologists'. They must engineer the deal for the institution's total and then turn in their