

Further details of the plan can be obtained from the headquarters of the society, Philadelphia, Pa., including sales prices for the new "Book of Standards," 1940-41 Supplements and the annual *Proceedings*.

### CONFERENCES ON THEORETICAL PHYSICS AND SPECTROSCOPY

THE thirteenth annual symposium on theoretical physics will be held at the University of Michigan from June 26 to August 18. The lecturers and subjects are as follows:

Professor Enrico Fermi, Columbia University  
*Throughout the Session*  
"Physics of High Energy Particles."  
"Cosmic Rays."

Professor E. J. Williams, University of Wales  
*July 12 to August 12*  
"General Discussion of the Theory of Collision."  
"Scattering of Fast Electrons and Cosmic Ray Particles."

Professor Gerhard Herzberg, University of Saskatchewan  
*Throughout the Session*  
"Band Spectra."

Assistant Professor John A. Wheeler, Princeton University  
*July 3 to August 12*  
"The Interaction between Electromagnetic Radiation and the Nucleus."

Dr. G. B. B. M. Sutherland, lecturer in physics,  
Pembroke College, Cambridge  
*July 24 to August 5*  
"Applications of Infra-red Spectra to the Determination of Inter- and Intra-Molecular Forces."

The seventh Conference on Spectroscopy will be held at the George Eastman Research Laboratories of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on July 17, 18 and 19, repeating the type of program presented at the conferences held during the past six summers. Reports will be given by spectroscopists from university and industrial research and analytical laboratories and by biologists, geologists, metallurgists, chemists and physicists, who have found spectroscopic equipment useful in their investigations.

Morning and afternoon meetings will be held on three days. Papers and discussions on analysis of material by the emission spectrum, absorption spectrophotometry, photographic photometry, biological and chemical effects of spectral radiation and industrial applications of spectroscopy are being prepared. Copies of the detailed program of the conference will be sent on request to any one interested, but as the attendance at the conference is limited to two hundred, those expecting to attend from a distance are urged to signify in advance their intention of being present. No fee is charged in connection with the conference.

The usual summer courses on practical and applied

spectroscopy will be offered at the institute between June 12 and July 22. Requests for fuller information regarding the spectroscopy conference, including titles of the papers to be presented, and for data regarding the summer courses should be addressed to Professor George R. Harrison, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.

### BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY

At the annual meeting of the Boston Society of Natural History, held on May 5 at the New England Museum of Natural History, the following officers were elected: *President*, John K. Howard; *Vice-presidents*, Glover M. Allen, Harold L. Babcock and Thomas D. Cabot; *Secretary*, Charles H. Blake; *Treasurer*, Augustus P. Loring, Jr.; *Executive Director*, Bradford Washburn; *Scientific Director*, Edward Wigglesworth; *Trustees*, Thomas Barbour, Charles H. Blake, Arthur Burger, Thornton W. Burgess, Alexander Forbes, Ludlow Griscom, Ralph Hornblower, Carl T. Keller, A. Lawrence Lowell, Alfred C. Redfield and William H. Weston, Jr.

In February Bradford Washburn, of the Institute of Geographical Exploration at Harvard University, took office as executive director of the New England Museum of Natural History. For ten years he has been largely engaged in pioneer exploration of the mountains of Alaska, both on the ground and from the air. He made first ascents of Mounts Lucania, Sanford and Saint Agnes.

Each year the society offers a prize known as the Walker Prize for the best memoir presented in a field of natural history. This year the prize was awarded to Donald R. Griffin, of Harvard University, for his paper on "The Migrations of New England Bats."

The Walker Grand Prize in Natural History, awarded once in five years for meritorious scientific investigation or discovery in natural history, was granted to Dr. John N. Couch, of the University of North Carolina, for his work on the genus *Septobasidium* published in the early spring of 1938.

### IN HONOR OF GLOVER MORRILL ALLEN

THE Visiting Committee of the Overseers of Harvard University and the faculty and staff of the Museum of Comparative Zoology gathered on the afternoon of May 5 to do honor to Dr. Glover Morrill Allen. The occasion was to celebrate the appearance, within one year, of three publications of outstanding importance.

1. The first volume of the Mammals of China and Mongolia, being volume 11 of the series entitled Natural History of Central Asia, published by the American Museum of Natural History.

2. The Checklist of African Mammals, being volume 83 of the *Bulletin* of the Museum of Comparative Zoology.