

usual area of sand dunes in the Arkansas River valley, south of Syracuse in Hamilton County, be made a state park for preservation as a natural area.

A new section—a College Students' Section—was added by request for next year with M. W. Allen, Coffeyville Junior College, as chairman.

The committee on research awards of the academy made grants for the year 1940-41 totaling \$207.50 to the following persons: John Breukelman, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia; Stuart Pady, Ottawa University, Ottawa; Lawrence Oncley, Southwestern College, Winfield; Dean R. Isaacs, Fort Hays Kansas State College, Hays; Allen C. Olsen, Kansas State College, Manhattan, and M. D. Wheatley, University of Kansas, Lawrence. The source of the funds was \$32.50 from the Albert T. Reagan Memorial Endowment, \$75.00 from the American Association for the Advancement of Science and \$100.00 from the academy treasury.

Volume 42 of the "Transactions," which was a cloth-bound book of 517 pages, was distributed to the membership on February 23, 1940. There are approximately 600 persons, 28 Junior Academy groups and 9 libraries now on the academy membership roll. The deaths of two life members—Larry M. Peace and Joshua W. Beede and one annual member, F. H. Dickinson, were reported. Dr. Edward Weidlein and Dr. Charles E. Burt were elected life members.

The academy will meet at Manhattan next year and at Hays in 1942. The following officers were elected: *President*, E. O. Deere; *President-elect*, F. C. Gates; *Vice-president*, R. H. Wheeler; *Secretary*, Roger C. Smith; *Treasurer*, H. A. Zinszer; additional members to the Executive Council, W. H. Schoewe, John Breukelman and H. H. Hall; *Managing Editor*, W. J. Baumgartner; *Editorial Board*, Geo. Kelley and D. J. Ameal, the latter serving as academy librarian.

The excellent rooms, largely in recently constructed buildings, with their equipment and furnishing provided by the University of Wichita, contributed much to the success of the meeting.

ROGER C. SMITH,  
*Secretary*

#### THE IOWA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE fifty-fourth annual meeting of the Iowa Academy of Science was held at Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, on April 19 and 20, with 258 members and visitors in registered attendance.

The presidential address, "Science and Progress," was presented by Dr. R. B. McClenon, professor of mathematics at Grinnell College. Other papers on the general program were "Chemical Transformations by Acetobacter," by Nandor Porges, of the United States Department of Agriculture and "Chemical Evidence of Alcoholic Intoxication," by Professor R. W.

Getchell, of Iowa State Teachers College. The annual address, "Television," was presented by Dr. H. H. Sheldon, of the New York University and the American Institute of the City of New York.

Two symposia were high-lights in the Friday afternoon session. The first of these under the chairmanship of Dr. C. J. Lapp, of the physics department of the State University of Iowa, was entitled "Basic Factors in Achievement at the College Level." Dr. Martin F. Fritz, of Iowa State College, and Drs. James B. Stroud and John A. McGeoch, of the State University of Iowa, led the discussion. The second, on "Vitamins," was sponsored jointly by the Academy and the Iowa State Medical Society. The chairman was Dr. W. M. Hale, of the State University of Iowa, and Dr. Norman A. Clark, of the Iowa State College, and Drs. P. C. Jeans and K. M. Brinkhous, of the Medical School of the State University, presented papers on "Vitamins in Plants," "Vitamin D in Human Nutrition" and "Vitamin K," respectively.

In addition to these symposia, the Academy met in eight sections for the presentation of 110 papers of special interest, and the Junior Academy of Science of Iowa met with the Academy. Dr. E. J. Cable and Dr. R. L. Abbott, of Iowa State Teachers College, and Dr. Nellie Naylor, of the Iowa State College, presented talks on their programs.

The following officers and section chairmen were elected for the next meeting which will be held at Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa:

*President*, Charles Carter, Parsons College; *vice-president*, Roy A. Nelson, Cornell College; *secretary-treasurer*, J. C. Gilman, Iowa State College; *editor*, Mrs. F. W. Nichols, Ames; *botany and bacteriology*, J. E. Sass, Iowa State College; *chemistry, general and physical*, Jacob Cornog, State University of Iowa; *chemistry, organic and biological*, J. B. Culbertson, Cornell College; *geology*, Louise Fillman, Simpson College; *mathematics*, J. Fred Robertson, Iowa State College; *physics*, Robert G. Wilson, Dubuque University; *psychology*, Paul C. Greene, Coe College; *science teaching*, R. M. Getchell, Iowa State Teachers College; *zoology*, F. G. Brooks, Cornell College. Cornelius Gouwens, Iowa State College, and H. E. Jaques of Iowa Wesleyan College were re-elected to the executive committee.

JOSEPH C. GILMAN

IOWA STATE COLLEGE

#### THE VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE eighteenth annual meeting of the Virginia Academy of Science was held at the Virginia Military Institute on May 2, 3 and 4 with a registration of 426. One hundred and eighty-three papers were read before the eight sections.

There was a Symposium on Jaundice in the Medical Section, and the Sections of Biology and Geology held a combined meeting to hear Dr. W. H. Camp, of the

New York Botanical Garden, speak on "Continental Displacement." Dr. Camp also gave the Friday night address on "A Winter in Oaxaca."

The Academy Prize of \$50 was awarded to Walton C. Gregory for a paper entitled, "Experimental and Phylogenetic Studies in Cytology," and the Jefferson Prize of \$50 was awarded to J. H. Yoe and L. G. Overholser for a paper entitled, "The Application of a New Class of Organic Reagent to the Detection and Determination of Palladium." This paper is now eligible to compete with four other papers awarded similar prizes by the Academies of Science of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida—the winner to be awarded a gold medal.

Officers elected for the coming year are: W. F. Rudd, *president*; E. C. L. Miller, *secretary-treasurer*; S. S. Negus, *assistant secretary-treasurer*, and George H. Jeffers, *president-elect*.

The new officers of sections are as follows:

*Astronomy, Mathematics and Physics: Chairman*, F. B. Haynes, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; *Secretary*, Isabel Boggs, Randolph-Macon Woman's College.  
*Biology: Chairman*, E. DeWitt Miller, University of Virginia; *Vice-Chairman*, Lena Artz, Arlington; *Secretary*, R. F. Smart, University of Richmond.

*Chemistry: Chairman*, W. G. Guy, College of William and Mary; *Secretary*, W. O. Swan, Virginia Military Institute.

*Education: Chairman*, Paul G. Hook, Clifton Forge; *Secretary*, E. B. Broadwater, Salem.

*Engineering: Chairman*, D. H. Pletta, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; *Secretary*, Paul S. Dear, Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

*Geology: Chairman*, E. C. H. Lammers, Washington and Lee University; *Vice-Chairman*, R. S. Edmundson, University of Virginia; *Secretary*, William M. McGill, University of Virginia.

*Medicine: Chairman*, R. J. Main, Medical College of Virginia; *Secretary*, Guy W. Horsley, Richmond.

*Psychology: Chairman*, W. M. Hinton, Washington and Lee University; *Secretary*, Evelyn Raskin, Randolph-Macon Woman's College.

Saturday afternoon, eleven sponsors of high-school science clubs and fifty members of their clubs met and took preliminary steps which it is hoped will eventuate in the organization of a Junior Academy of Science.

The meeting next year will be held at the Medical College of Virginia.

E. C. L. MILLER,  
*Secretary*

## REPORTS

### THE REPORT ON BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS FOR 1939

BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS is a non-profit, service organization run for the benefit of biologists and other interested persons. Consequently, the Board of Trustees is making a report on *Biological Abstracts* at this time. The financial statement given below is a summary of the picture for 1939 and indicates a slight decrease in reserves with an estimated net surplus of \$12,000.00. It is apparent that a portion of this will have to be utilized during 1940 to make up for the anticipated decrease in income due to the European war.

*Biological Abstracts* entered 1939 with cash of \$28,518.32. Income for the last volume (Vol. 13—1939) was derived as follows: Subscriptions, \$38,194.21; advertising, \$1,072.12; contributions of one sort or another from these societies—American Society of Zoologists, Society of American Bacteriologists, American Society of Naturalists, Poultry Science Association, American Phytopathological Society; Ecological Society of America, Botanical Society of America, Union of American Biological Societies—totaled \$3,066.00; interest, postage, and miscellaneous, \$586.06; this gives a total income from Volume 13 of \$42,918.39. From this must be deducted salaries of \$17,384.13 and printing and office overhead of \$24,814.89, which leaves

a balance of \$719.37. During 1939 the Back Volume Fund (*i.e.*, the reserve fund from which the indices in arrears must be paid for, etc.) was credited with a total income for the year of \$16,033.16. This income was derived from the sale of back volumes—\$3,409.96—and the balance from societies, advertising and subscriptions to the previous volume (Volume 12). Expenses in connection with printing Volume 12 Index, extra editorial expense on the indices of Volumes 11 and 12 and the general Back Volume Fund expenses of \$4,855.28 leave a balance of \$852.27. Thus the cash at the end of 1939 stood at \$23,979.60. From this must be deducted an estimated \$14,380.97 for the printing, etc. of the Volume 11 Index and to pay the balances due on Volume 13, leaving an estimated net surplus on December 31, 1939, of \$9,598.63 cash and \$2,673.54 accounts receivable.<sup>1</sup>

During 1939 the coverage of journals increased from 895 in March to nearly 1,175 by December 31. A total of 18,108 abstracts were printed in 1939, which represents an increase of almost 11 per cent. over the preceding year. Due largely to the effective financial

<sup>1</sup> In storage there are a number of complete sets of Volumes 1–13 (1926–39). These have considerable value as shown by previous sales during 1938 and 1939 which amounted to \$3,349.00 and \$3,011.00, respectively.