

genera and species which will be issued by the Department of Micropaleontology of the American Museum of Natural History.

The books are printed on sturdy paper. Their pages will need to be strong if they are to withstand the

constant wear which such indispensable reference volumes are sure to receive at the hands of biologists and paleontologists for many years to come.

B. F. HOWELL

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

## SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

### THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

ON Saturday, November 9, the Texas Academy of Science closed its three-day annual meeting held at the Plaza Hotel, San Antonio. The Texas Federation of Nature Clubs (Dr. Leo T. Murray, of Baylor University, *president*) and the Texas Wildlife Federation (Dr. Walter P. Taylor, of A. and M. College, regional representative, *chairman*) were cooperating organizations. The meetings included fifteen technical sessions, two public general sessions, three business sessions, six luncheons and special dinners and the annual dinner beside the business, technical and social sessions of the Collegiate and Junior Divisions of the Academy. An estimation of attendance places the number of separate individuals who were present at one time or another at well over one thousand.

Speakers following the Thursday dinner were: Colonel H. A. Finch, U. S. A., on the "Science of National Defense," and Dr. Robert Montgomery, of the University of Texas, on "The Effect of Monopolies on Our National Defense Program."

Following the Friday dinner Dean Oscar A. Ullrich, of Southwestern University, president of the academy, presented his presidential address, "The Adolescence of Social Science." He was followed by L. B. Kingman, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, who spoke on "The Science of Crime Detection."

The Collegiate division of the academy, which consists of student chapters in the various colleges of the state, held three scientific, a business and a luncheon

session during Friday and Saturday. About 100 division members attended.

The Junior division, consisting of high-school chapters throughout the state, presents its main program at the regional spring meetings. This is necessitated by the large area of the state. At the annual meeting only officers' conferences, prize and outstanding papers sent in from the preceding regional meetings, and local papers participate. However, twenty-three papers and a division breakfast appeared on the program.

Local colleges, museums and learned societies of San Antonio all participated in forwarding the plans for the meeting and in contributing to success.

There developed a strong movement, in the interests of forwarding some special plans to be announced definitely later, for maintaining a continuity of 1940 plans through 1941, and Drs. O. A. Ullrich, of Southwestern University, Frederick A. Burt, of A. and M. College, Otto O. Watts, of Hardin-Simmons University, and S. W. Bilsing, of A. and M., who served respectively as president, secretary, treasurer, and representative to the council of the A. A. A. S., will continue in their offices until the time of the next annual meeting. Over 100 new members were elected to membership, and 29 members of one or more years standing were by vote transferred to the list of fellows.

FREDERICK A. BURT,  
*Secretary*

## REPORTS

### DEFERMENT FROM MILITARY SERVICE OF SCIENTIFIC MEN

THE question of deferment from military service of selected men in six scientific fields in industry and educational institutions is the subject of a report in answer to a request of Clarence A. Dykstra, director of the Selective Service System. It is signed by Dr. Isaiah Bowman, president of the Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Frank B. Jewett, president of the National Academy of Sciences. The report was prepared under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences and the Subcommittee on Military Affairs of the National Committee on Education and Defense, created jointly by the American Council on Education and the National Education Association.

The report follows:

Both because your letter asks for a prompt reply and because the entire structure of the defense program is not yet sufficiently developed to indicate the full extent to which scientific personnel should be exempted temporarily or permanently from military service, it is impossible at this time to express an opinion as to the whole field of fundamental and applied science.

All that this statement attempts to do therefore is to cover those fields of science in which the conditions seem clearly to indicate the general course that should be pursued in the best interests of the national defense program. As to the other fields of science, supplementary statements may be issued as soon as they can be more thoroughly studied from the standpoint of general procedure. Individual cases for deferment un-