

delegates assembled in the Ghirlandajo Room of Agassiz House, where the installing officers spoke briefly on the significance of the society and its major activities, especially of its national lectureships and publications.

Officers were elected as follows: *President*, Dr. Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin; *Vice-president*, Dr. Elizabeth Deichmann; *Member of the Executive Committee*, Dr. Ytte Muus, and *Secretary-Treasurer*, Dr. Dorrit Hoffleit, all members of the Harvard Chapter. Professors F. M. Carpenter, Grinnell Jones, E. A. Hooton, H. R. Mimno and D. S. Whittlesey were elected members of the committee on membership of the Radcliffe Chapter. The charter was then presented by National President Shapley to Chapter President Payne-Gaposchkin.

In the evening over a hundred members, delegates and guests of the chapter, including Radcliffe graduate students in scientific fields, were entertained at the college. Dr. F. L. Hisaw acted as toastmaster. Dr. Shapley pointed out that this year marks several important scientific anniversaries—the one hundredth anniversary of Harvard College Observatory, the two hundredth of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, the three hundredth of Newton's and the four hundredth of the death of Copernicus. He spoke mainly on various activities for the promotion of science.

The principal address of the evening was given by Dr. Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin, who spoke on "The Scholar and the World."

DORRIT HOFFLEIT,
Secretary-Treasurer

POSITIONS WITH THE NAVY

THE Navy needs capable men for staff duties in the administration of occupied areas of foreign lands. Candidates with a background of education and experience in government administration may qualify.

Foreign travel, particularly in the Far East and Southwest Pacific region, is desirable; also a knowledge of the customs, language and character of the people in these areas. Applicants with similar experience and knowledge of other foreign areas will be considered if they meet one or more of the following qualifications:

Administrative experience of an important nature, domestic or foreign, involving government, business, foundations, schools of public administration, etc.

Educational experience in State and Federal governments, university administrators; also teachers in fields of geography, economic and international relations.

Engineering experience: construction of public works, shipping, public utilities, transportation, etc.

Legal training and experience of an important nature indicated by relative importance of position in profession or related field, preferably public service.

Candidates must be in good physical condition and be capable of absorbing intensive instruction in a one-year course in government. Commissions in the U. S. Naval Reserve will be granted immediately and applicants who qualify will be on an active duty status. All educational expenses will be paid by the Navy. Service of these officers will extend beyond the expiration of the war.

Qualified candidates should apply to the nearest Naval Office of Officer Procurement. These offices are located in all major cities.

THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY AND THE KILGORE BILL

IN accordance with information received from the American Chemical Society the directors of the society oppose the establishment of an Office of War Mobilization as proposed in Senator Kilgore's bill. Dr. Charles L. Parsons, secretary of the society, reports that

In the opinion of the directors there is no necessity for the enactment of such legislation now. Their objections can be summarized briefly by stating that these bills confer totalitarian powers that should be entrusted to no human being, and require an omniscience for their intelligent execution which is not to be found on this earth.

The directors believe that the enactment of these bills into law at this time would serve no good purpose in so far as the mobilization of technical resources in the field of chemistry is concerned. The Government now has at its command every resource in the fields of chemistry and chemical engineering.

In support of the position taken by the directors, Dr. Parsons points out that the membership of the society, which includes practically all the leading chemists and chemical engineers of the country organized into 101 local sections, varying in size from 30 to 2,500 each, is solidly behind the war effort. Its publications are described as "a complete key to all that is new in chemical discovery and development." They go to all agencies of the Government engaged in the war effort and in addition they go to all war plants engaged in the war effort which in any way deal with the field of chemistry, and they go to practically all the research laboratories in the United States as well as to all educational institutions with chemical departments.

The chief of the Chemicals and Allied Products Branch of the War Production Board is reported to have stated that "without the publications of the society, the laboratories of our colleges, of our Government and of our industries could not efficiently function. These journals are a contribution to the