ties worthy of the mythological characteristics conceived by the unrestrained imaginations of men in prescientific times. Not a few of them have proved to be obvious fakers, schemers or incompetents masquerading in the name of learning with the confident expectation that the institution would indorse, finance or otherwise promote their objects under the guise of research. But, as might have been predicted, the history of all this varied experience is a history of futility clouded here and there by manifestations of the baser traits of mankind and lighted up only occasionally by flashes of wit, wisdom or humor in the prevailing pathologic cast.

ROBERT S. WOODWARD

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

CONJOINT BOARD OF SCIENTIFIC STUDIES IN GREAT BRITAIN

THE first annual report of the Conjoint Board of Scientific Studies, established at the instance of the Council of the Royal Society in June, 1916, has been issued. As reported in the *British Medical Journal,* the objects of the board are to promote the cooperation of those interested in pure or applied science; to supply means by which the scientific opinion of the country on matters relating to science, industry and education, may find effective expression; to promote the application of science to industries and the service of the nation; and to discuss scientific questions in which international cooperation seems advisable. The chairman of the board, which consists of representatives of numerous societies, is the president of the Royal Society. Among the constituent societies are the Royal Anthropological Institute, the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in England, the Royal Society of Medicine, the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the Psychological, Linnean, Zoological, Biochemical, and Psychological Societies, the Institute of Chemistry, the Society of Chemical Industry, the Chemical Society, and the Royal Institute of British Architects. There is a small executive committee, of which Sir Joseph J. Thomson, president of the Royal Society, is chairman, and Dr. W. W. Watts, professor of geology in the Imperial College of Science and Technology, secretary; among the other members are Sir Alfred Keogh and Sir Ray Lankester. The board has appointed a number of sub-committees, some of which appear to have got to work during the year, including The International Catalogue Subcommittee which has obtained information regarding the extent of the use made by scientific men of the present International Catalogue of Scientific Literature; the Watching Subcommittee on Education, of which Sir Ray Lankester is convener, the Metric System Subcommittee, and the Anthropological Survey Subcommittee. The last named consists of Major Leonard Darwin (convener), Professor A. Keith (secretary), Dr. James Galloway, Dr. P. Chalmers Mitchell, and Professors G. Elliot Smith, Karl Pearson and Arthur Thomson. It has presented a report on the need of a physical survey of the British people, and intends to institute further inquiries before drafting recommendations. On its advice the executive committee asked the Board of Education, the Local Government Board, and the Registrar-General's Office to nominate representatives on the subcommittee, and Sir George Newman, Sir Arthur Newsholme, and Dr. T. H. C. Stevenson, have been appointed. The Watching Subcommittee on Education has held a conference with the Council of Humanistic Studies, and has made a report to the Conjoint Board, in the course of which it recommended that both natural science and literary subjects should be taught to all pupils below the age of 16, and that afterwards specialization should be gradual and not complete. It points out that in many schools of the older type more time, which can often be obtained by economy in the time allotted to classics, is needed for instruction in natural science, but that in many schools more time is needed for instruction in languages, history and geography. The opinion is also expressed that while it is impossible and undesirable to provide instruction in both Latin and Greek in all secondary

schools, provision should be made in every area for teaching these subjects. The subcommittee also transmitted to the Government Committee on Science in the Educational System of Great Britain two recommendations on which it was unanimous; one is that in order to secure teachers able to give inspiring and attractive courses in science adequate salaries should be paid, and the other, that while prime importance must be attached to provision for laboratory work it was essential that there should be instruction also in the romance of scientific discovery and its applications. Every pupil should not only receive training in observational and experimental science, but should be given a view of natural science as a whole, the object being to evoke interest in science in relation to ordinary life, "rather than to impart facts or data of science presented by an examination syllabus, or even to systematize their rediscovery."

WIRELESS TIME SERVICE IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

The progress in the time service of the Philippine Islands is made evident from the fact that since October 1, 1917, the Cavite Radio Station, cooperating with the Bureau of Posts and the Manila Observatory, sends out time signals of the 120th meridian East of Greenwich at 11 A.M. and 10 P.M. every day, Sundays and holidays inclusive. Manila holds an enviable position in the Pacific and the interests of shipping companies making Manila a port of call are too prosperous to be overlooked. Accurate time signals and wise typhoon warnings are of immense value to the units of the United States Asiatic Fleet, to Army transports and in general to oversea shipping.

For the purpose of sending time signals, the transmitting clock of the Manila Observatory is connected with the Cavite wireless station through the Bureau of Posts. Manila Observatory time signals begin at 10:55 A.M. and 9:55 P.M., standard time of the 120th meridian East of Greenwich; and continue for five minutes. During this interval every tick of the clock is transmitted, except the 28th, 29th, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th and 59th of each minute. Experiments made on board the *U. S. Wilmington, Monterey, Sheridan, Merrit* and the commercial steamer *Colombia,* of the Pacific Mail, gave satisfactory results.

PROFESSOR W. A. NOYES AND THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Resolutions on the services of Professor W. A. Noyes to the American Chemical Society have been passed, as follows:

Whereas, Dr. William A. Noyes is soon to terminate his service as editor of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society,* to which for fifteen years he has, with unceasing devotion and conscientious care, given a large portion of his time; and

Whereas, During these years he has by his effective conduct of the *Journal* raised it to a scientific publication of the very first rank, in which is now published by far the greater part of the best chemical research carried on in this country, and

Whereas, He was the leading spirit in the organization and detailed planning of the *Abstract Journal* of the Society, which has made available to American chemists in an exceptionally comprehensive and satisfactory form the current chemical research of the world; and

Whereas, He has thus contributed in a vital way to the phenomenal increase in membership and scientific activity of the Society during the last two decades, in which the success of its journals has been one of the most important factors; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the Society expresses its keen regret that other tasks have compelled the resignation of Dr. Noyes from the editorship of the *Journal,* and records its high appreciation of his services to the Society, especially of his ardor in developing the Society's journals, which will remain a splendid monument to the success of his work.

(For the Council) Signed by

Wilder D. Bancroft,
Marston T. Bogert,
John H. Long,
Arthur A. Noyes,
Theodore W. Richards, *Chairman*