

to test out the new models in as many ways as possible. The mathematical calculations upon which these models are based will probably be published in the *Physical Review*.

IRVING LANGMIUR

RESEARCH LABORATORY,
GENERAL ELECTRIC Co.,
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.,
October 13, 1920

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

EDWIN S. CARMAN, manufacturer, of Cleveland, Ohio, has been elected president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in a mail ballot covering a membership of 13,000 engineers, managers and technologists in every industrial center of the country. Mr. Carman succeeds Major Fred J. Miller, of this city. He will take office after the society's annual convention, which will be held in New York in December.

John L. Harrington, consulting engineer, of Kansas City; Leon P. Alford, editor, of New York, and Robert B. Wolf, president of the R. B. Wolf Company, of New York, were chosen vice-presidents for two years in succession to John A. Stevens, of Lowell, Mass; Henry B. Sargent, of New Haven, Conn, and Fred R. Low, of this city.

Three managers, each for a term of three years, were elected, as follows: Henry M. Norris, of Cincinnati; Carl C. Thomas, of Los Angeles; Louis C. Nordmeyer, of St. Louis. Major William H. Wiley, publisher, of New York, was re-elected treasurer. The secretary will be elected by the society's council in December. Calvin W. Rice has held this office since 1906.

Following a meeting of the society's council, composed of the president, vice-presidents, managers, past presidents, treasurer and secretary, representing engineering effort in many sections of the country, and with a membership of twenty-one, broad plans for promoting professional endeavor and public service, particularly as to industrial relations and rewarding engineering achievement, were an-

nounced. The finance committee recommended a budget for the ensuing year of over \$500,000.

The meetings and progress committee detailed plans for the annual convention of the society in New York in December and also announced plans for a congress of mechanical engineers to be held in Chicago next spring.

THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

THE thirty-eighth stated meeting of The American Ornithologists' Union will convene in Washington, D. C., November 9-11.

Headquarters will be at The Harrington, 11th and E Streets, N. W., four blocks from the U. S. National Museum. Owing to the crowded condition of hotels in Washington members intending to be present are urged to make reservations well in advance.

The public meetings will be held in the U. S. National Museum, from 10 A.M. until 4.30 P.M. each day.

The reading of papers will form a prominent feature of the meetings. All classes of members are earnestly requested to contribute, and to notify the secretary before November 1, as to the titles of their communications and the length of time required for their presentation, so that a program for each day may be prepared.

In addition to the usual social features there will be opportunities to visit various places of interest, including the National Zoological Park and the Library of Congress. Arrangements have been made for a special exhibit in the library, showing the development of zoological illustrations as applied to birds and original drawings and photographs of birds by American artists and photographers.

T. S. PALMER,
Secretary

1939 BILTMORE ST., N. W.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

THE American Society of Naturalists will hold its thirty-eighth annual meeting at Chicago, under the auspices of the University of Chicago, beginning on Thursday, December

30. The program of Thursday morning will be devoted to papers contributed by members and invited guests; this program may be continued on Friday if of sufficient length. It is expected that problems of organic evolution will be the central theme of these papers. On Thursday afternoon will be held a symposium on "General physiology." The Naturalists' dinner will be given Thursday evening, and at its close Dr. Jacques Loeb will deliver the presidential address on the subject "On osmosis."

Headquarters of the society will be at the Congress Hotel, Michigan Boulevard and Congress Street, in conjunction with other biological societies. Rooms without bath for one person may be had for three to five dollars; rooms with bath for one person range from four to nine dollars, and for two persons from seven dollars up. Members desiring accommodations at headquarters are urged to make reservations early in order that there may be no disappointments.

A. FRANKLIN SHULL,
Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN,
ANN ARBOR, MICH.

THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS AT THE CHICAGO MEETING

THE seventeenth annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers under the direction of the President, Professor Herbert E. Gregory, will be held at Chicago, on Thursday and Friday, December 30 and 31, and also Saturday, January 1. Through the courtesy of the department of geography of the University of Chicago, the meetings will be held in Rosenwald Hall, where facilities for use of illustrative materials are provided.

The morning sessions will open at ten o'clock and close at one o'clock; the afternoon sessions will run from two-thirty to five-thirty. On Thursday evening at eight o'clock there will be a round table conference on the policy of the association at the hotel; on Friday evening there will be an informal conference at the hotel on cooperation in geographic research.

By vote of the council there will be a joint meeting with the Ecological Society of America on Friday morning. The speakers from this Association will be Professors Henry C. Cowles and A. G. Ruthven; the speakers from the Ecological Society will be Drs. D. T. MacDougall and V. C. Shelford. The President's address will be given at the opening of the session on Friday afternoon, and will be followed by three invited papers on industrial geography, according to the decision of the council at the spring meeting.

The nominating committee, consisting of R. H. Whitbeck, chairman, R. DeC. Ward and J. W. Goldthwaite, presents the following nominations for officers for 1921.

President—Ellen Churchill Semple.

Vice-presidents—A. J. Henry, Curtis F. Marbut.

Secretary—Richard E. Dodge.

Treasurer—George B. Roorbach.

Councilor—Nevin M. Fenneman.

All interested in geography, or its allied subjects, are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the association.

RICHARD ELWOOD DODGE,
Secretary

STORRS, CONNECTICUT,
October 20, 1920

THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

THE department of chemistry of The Ohio State University held a chemical symposium on Saturday, October 16, as one of its contributions to the celebration on the occasion of the semi-centennial of the founding of the university from October 13 to 16. The following program was presented by the alumni of the department:

"A brief history of the department of chemistry," by William McPherson, head department of chemistry, The Ohio State University.

"The organization of a chemistry department," by Winfred F. Coover, professor of chemistry, Iowa State College.

"A chemical attack upon the unsolved problem of human diabetes," by Dr. Edgar J. Witzemann, research chemist for the Otho Sprague Memorial Institute, Rush Medical College, University of Chicago.