were received from 161 members. According to the by-laws, members who were in arrears for 1917 or 1918, and who had not taken advantage of this special offer, were dropped from the membership list on October 1.

Notifications and Certificates.—The engraved certificates of life-membership, membership, and fellowship have been revised, as is also true of the notifications accompanying these and the notifications of election to office. Notification forms have been prepared and brought into use for acceptance of resignation from the association and for notice of retirement from the membership list on account of arrearages for over two years.

Divisions of the Association.—The arrangements provided for the Pacific Division and the Southwestern Division have been carried out. New members in the geographical provinces of these divisions make their first payment to the division. After the first year, dues are paid to the permanent secretary's office. The divisions receive from the permanent secretary's office, the entrance fees obtained through their efforts and also $1 a year for each member in good standing.

Affiliated Academies, Etc.—Eight state academies of science have become affiliated, being those of Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Nebraska, New Orleans, Ohio and Wisconsin. The Southern Education Society is similarly affiliated. These organizations collect the dues of their national members (who are also members of the A. A. A. S.), using white statement cards supplied from the permanent secretary's office but sent out by the affiliated organizations. Such affiliated organizations remit to the permanent secretary's office $4 a year for each national member in good standing in the association.

Change of Office.—The permanent secretary's office has been moved to the third floor of the Smithsonian Institution building, the new quarters being much more satisfactory than the old ones. Mr. Sam Woodley has charge of the office, with two clerks.

Addressograph Plates.—Additions have been made to the addressograph plates, so that members' addresses printed therefrom show the year of election to membership, to fellowship and to life-membership. For example, the symbol 17 denotes that election to membership occurred in 1917; 17F19 means the same, with added information that election to fellowship occurred in 1919; L19 means that the member became a life-member in 1919.

Arrangement of Plates.—The file of addressograph plates is now segregated into geographical groups, the members' names for each state, etc., being filed together. For states with affiliated academies, names of academy members are segregated, each such state thus having two alphabets. Furthermore, each group of plates is subdivided to show (*a*) those who have paid and (*b*) those who have not paid dues for current year, and (*c*) life members.

STATUS OF MEMBERSHIP (SEPTEMBER 30, 1920)		
No. of members paid-up for 1920..	9,649	
No. of life members.....	353	
Total paid-up membership.....		10,002
No. of members in arrears for 1919 and 1920.....	447	
No. of members in arrears for 1920 only	938	
No. of members who still owe $2 on account of dues for 1920..	55	
Total number of members not in good standing, but whose names are retained on membership list.		1,140
Total of names on membership list		11,442

Two hundred and one new members were elected between November 1, 1919, and October 1, 1920. Approximately 400 new members have been elected since the last-named date.

Burton E. Livingston,
Permanent Secretary

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

STANDARDIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL LABORATORY APPARATUS

Through the efforts of certain apparatus manufacturers, there met informally at the Chemists Club, New York City, on August 2, representatives of the following companies to

discuss the advisability of drawing up standard specifications for laboratory apparatus to be used in their industrial research and works control laboratories: Barrett Company, General Chemical Company, Atmospheric Nitrogen Corporation, Grasselli Chemical Company, National Aniline & Chemical Company, New Jersey Zinc Company, Solvay Process Company, Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, and E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Company.

It developed at this meeting that material savings might be expected to develop from this work. Since most of these companies are members of the Manufacturing Chemists Association of the United States, a committee composed of these members was appointed by the Manufacturing Chemists Association to pass on the proposals of the informal committee and to recommend the adoption of the specifications resulting from the informal committee's work as standard for the members of the Manufacturing Chemists Association.

Arrangements have been made for full cooperation with the Committee on Guaranteed Reagents and Standard Apparatus of the American Chemical Society, and also with the committee on standards of the Association of Scientific Apparatus Makers of the United States of America. These specifications will be considered carefully by committees of these three societies, and it is expected that they will then be published as tentative for a period of six months in order to give time for general criticism. At the end of that time the specifications will be adopted as final.

In carrying on this work an effort will be made to obtain specifications which will insure the cheapest mode of manufacture of a given instrument consistent with the duties that it must perform.

To date, three meetings of this committee have been held and considerable progress has been made. The committee desires to cooperate fully with all industries, and any communications should be forwarded to the chairman, Dr. E. C. Lathrop, E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company, Wilmington, Delaware.

NEEDS OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PROGRAM

ONE of the features of the forty-first Annual Report of the Director of the United States Geological Survey, just made public, is the statement that though, during the 40 years of its existence, the Geological Survey's policy has been to contribute material for a national plan to gain scientific knowledge of the nation's mineral resources, yet the greatest need of the Geological Survey to-day is a plan for itself—a program. The recognized function of a scientific bureau is to collect and arrange facts upon which the nation may base its plans for future development, but the Geological Survey now finds itself unable to plan adequately its own development. It lacks that assurance of continued appropriations that would encourage or warrant long-term investigations, a few of which are absolutely essential to any forward-looking program of scientific research. The increasing gap between the government scale of professional salaries and the scale prevailing in commercial employment causes a continual change in personnel that makes the administration of scientific work almost hopeless. The responsible official, in arranging to have the work done that is most needed, actually has his choice of projects determined for him by the personnel available. For each scientist of fully tested ability the choice has to be made between several pieces of work, all of which deserve immediate attention. Even less satisfactory is the situation in which an urgent call for a geologic field examination has to be met by assigning to it an untried worker. The report holds that the net result is that the Geological Survey is not fully occupying the field which is recognized as peculiarly its own. It could, however, occupy that field. With slightly increased appropriations, and especially with the declaration of intent by Congress to regard the scientific bureau as having successfully passed its probationary period, greater stability might be expected and some progress might be made in the adoption of a program fitted to the country's needs.