WHEREAS, the scientific education of the youth of the United States is among the most fundamental and important functions of the Republic, education being the only means by which the advantages of present civilization may be surely transmitted to coming generations of citizens and by which the future progress of the Republic may be assured; and

WHEREAS, the prosecution of the said scientific education of the youth requires unrestricted employment of the apparatus and materials of science in educational institutions, this being increasingly true for more advanced education; and

WHEREAS, the scientific materials and apparatus to be used in educational institutions ought to be selected, as far as possible, without consideration of their place of origin, since science is world-wide in its scope; and

WHEREAS, any increase in the cost of scientific equipment for education is to be greatly deplored, since the funds available for its purchase by educational institutions are invariably inadequate in comparison with the great needs and possibilities of education; and

WHEREAS, institutions for higher education must still be relied on for the most fundamental and farreaching steps in the advancement of knowledge, through the scientific researches of their faculties and students; and

WHEREAS, both financial and patriotic considerations clearly require that the Republic should aid fundamental scientific research in every possible way, especially avoiding the erection of artificial barriers across the path of the advance of true knowledge; and, finally,

WHEREAS, in consideration of the foregoing clauses, The American Association for the Advancement of Science, with its 12,000 members, almost all of whom are citizens of the United States—representing the fundamental scientific interests of the country from the standpoint of scientific research as well as from that of instruction, and representing especially the institutions for higher education and their staffs—views with very serious concern the proposal to repeal section 573 of the tariff act of October 3, 1913, which allows the duty-free importation of scientific materials by educational institutions; therefore, be it

Resolved, that The American Association for the Advancement of Science respectfully calls the attention of the Congress of the United States to the very great hindrance and burden that would be imposed upon the scientific education and research in the Republic if its educational institutions were to be deprived of the privilege of duty-free importation of scientific apparatus and materials, which they have enjoyed for many years; and be it further

Resolved, that the American Association also respectfully urges the restoration of the corresponding privilege of duty-free importation of single copies of scientific books in the English language by recognized educational institutions and the faculties, such books constituting an important item of both institutional and personal equipment for advanced instruction and research, especially since it is undesirable that scientific publications in languages other than English should be artificially favored in the United States; and be it finally

Resolved, that these resolutions be forwarded to the proper committees of the Congress of the United States, to the National Academy of Sciences, to the National Research Council, and to the secretaries of the scientific societies affiliated with the American Association, that they be published in SCIENCE, official organ of the association, and also that they be sent to each member of the association.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

'SCIENCE' AND THE PRINTERS' STRIKE

THE printers of SCIENCE are making special efforts to bring out the journal in spite of the general strike of compositors affecting the offices in which most of our scientific journals are printed. In order to assist them, the present number is reduced somewhat in size and is using mainly matter in type prior to the strike. The present issue gives first place to an important article which under ordinary circumstances would be printed in the department devoted to special research. It may again be noted that the advertisers have been requested to use copy already in type.

The Council of the American Chemical Society voted at their recent Rochester meeting:

That this council expresses to the directors of the society the hope that the Eschenbach Printing Company will be released from any forfeits that may arise under the terms of its contract in connection with the impending strike, due to the insistence upon the 44-hour week, and

That the members of this council also express their willingness, in the event such a strike is not amicably settled, to wait indefinitely for the publication of the journals of the society.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS[1]

The Institute of Physics was inaugurated at a largely attended meeting in the hall of the Institution of Civil Engineers on April 27. The need has long been felt for a corporate body, analogous to the Institute of Chemistry, which should strengthen the position of workers engaged in physics, and form a bond between the various societies interested in the subject. The institute has now been founded by the cooperation, in the first instance, of the Faraday Society, the Optical Society and the Physical Society of London, while the Royal Microscopical Society and the Roentgen Society have since decided to participate. In opening the proceedings, the first president, Sir Richard Glazebrook, said that the work of the physicist would become more and more important in the future, both in pure and applied science, and one of the aims of the institute was to accelerate a recognition of the physicist's position and value. Many developments in physics had been of vital importance during the war, but men who had done important work as physicists could only be given an official status in some cases by being termed research chemists. He added that the membership of the institute was already about 300, and comprised most of the leaders in physical science. Sir J. J. Thomson, who, it was stated, was willing to be nominated as president for the next year, gave a brief address. He said that to one who regarded chemistry as a branch of physics it was rather anomalous that hitherto there should have been an Institute of Chemistry and not an Institute of Physics. He had been a student of physics for fifty years. At the beginning of that period physics was like an army with great generals but few troops. There were at that time perhaps a dozen laboratories in the country. Opportunities multiplied rapidly, however, and students with them, and salaries also increased so that physics now offered to every competent man a livelihood though but small hope of a fortune. To-day the demand for competent physicists exceeded the supply. Research was expensive for the student and for the university, and perhaps this fact was not sufficiently recognized, although more money was available for research now than ever before. He saw no disposition to neglect or undervalue pure research, undertaken without any thought of an industrial application, and he congratulated the institute on representing a profession which not only contributed so largely in various ways to human comfort, but aided the intellectual development of mankind. The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour extended a cordial welcome to the Institute. He had been greatly surprised to learn that there was not already in existence an institute of physics. After all, physics was the most fundamental of all the sciences. Whatever a man's line of research might be, if he could find a physical explanation for the phenomena he was examining, then, and then only, could he hope for something like finality in his investigation. It was certainly surprising that in this country, which had not lagged behind any country in the world in the great advances it had made in regard to the physical knowledge of the universe, they had not had an institute of physics before now.

[1] From the *British Medical Journal*.

THE BOSTON MEETING OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The seventy-second annual session of the American Medical Association will be held in Boston, Mass., June 6–10, 1921, under the presidency of Dr. William C. Braisted. The scientific assembly of the association will open with the general meeting to be held at 8:30 P.M., Tuesday, June 7. The Sections will meet Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, June 8, 9 and 10 as follows:

Convening at 9 a.m., the Sections on Practise of Medicine; Obstetrics, Gynecology and Abdominal Surgery; Laryngology, Otology and Rhinology; Pathology and Physiology; Stomatology; Nervous and Mental Diseases; Urology; Preventive Medicine and Public Health.