of Tanners Council and the American Leather Chemists Association were welcomed by Dr. Frederick C. Hicks, president of the University of Cincinnati. In the absence of Secretary Hoover, Dr. Martin H. Fischer spoke on the significance of this undertaking. He was followed by Dr. J. S. Rogers, president of the American Leather Chemists Association. President Fraser M. Moffat, of Tanners Council, then presented the laboratory to the University of Cincinnati and it was accepted on behalf of the directors by President Hicks.

In the three-story brick building there are laboratories well equipped for fundamental research on all phases of leather. The large staff laboratories are supplemented by smaller ones for students who have qualified themselves to do special work. The whole undertaking is an example of cooperative fundamental research fostered by an industrial association.

LABORATORY FOR THE STUDY OF THE PHILOLOGICAL SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

DR. A. R. MORRIS, of the department of rhetoric in the University of Michigan, has sent the following communication to Professor Alfred H. Lloyd, dean of the graduate school of the university:

I am directed to report to you the action of a conference of representatives of seven departments held yesterday to consider plans for mobilizing resources in the interest of laboratory study of phonetics, philology and language form. The movement grows out of a proposal made last December before the Philological Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science by Professor Cottrell. The suggestion seemed so timely that it ought not go unrealibed.

To meet the needs of philologists not provided with laboratories, it was suggested that a laboratory be established, somewhere in the country, equipped to make records for all comers. Such a laboratory adequately fitted and manned involves greater expense than any institution is just now in a position to meet. Until a way is found through the National Research Council or otherwise to provide such facilities, or until some other feasible plan is worked out, it seemed that something might be done immediately in this direction by pooling the laboratory resources of equipment and personnel. After some preliminary conferences seven departments have taken steps to pool their resources and to offer their combined equipment to any one wishing to make speech records for analysis. By this combination we should be able soon to provide facilities for recording by any of the methods so far developed and to provide material assistance in the analysis of curves for the study of tone quality.

The seven departments cooperating are psychology, physics, rhetoric, physiology, phonetics, mathematics and public speaking. Our proposal is, perhaps, only a stopgap to serve until something better is developed, but so far as this plan can be made to advance the laboratory study of linguistic problems these seven departments are glad to offer their services.

CHEMISTRY AT THE WASHINGTON MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

AN interesting program will be presented to the chemists at the Washington meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, beginning on Tuesday, December 30, at 10 A. M. The meeting is under the auspices of the Washington and other eastern sections of the American Chemical Society and Section C of the association, but all chemists and others interested are invited to attend.

The address of the retiring vice-president of the association, Dr. E. W. Washburn, editor of the International Critical Tables, will be presented on Wednesday afternoon on the subject "Some effects of the weather upon physical measurements."

A symposium on X-rays in chemistry has been arranged, and will probably be held on Thursday afternoon. Dr. Arthur H. Compton will present an illustrated paper on X-rays and their scattering by electrons; Dr. Ralph W. Wyckoff, of the Geophysical Laboratory, will consider the topic "X-rays and crystal structure"; Dr. W. P. Davey, of the General Electric Company, will talk on "Atomic and ionic radii," and Dr. George L. Clark, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will give a paper on "The versatility of x-rays."

A few of the other papers to be presented are listed below:

Illustrated lecture on gels and colloids, H. N. Holmes, Oberlin College.

European laboratories, W. A. Noyes, University of Illinois.

Excited atoms, K. T. Compton, Princeton University.

New aspects of some fundamental properties of matter, Eugene C. Bingham, Lafayette College.

A method of establishing a potential gradient for organic radicals, M. S. Kharasch, University of Maryland.

The electronic conception of adsorption from the standpoint of gels, Neil E. Gordon, University of Maryland.

Some causes of volcanic activity, A. L. Day, Geophysical Laboratory.

The interpretation of band spectra, Robert S. Mulliken, Harvard University.

The relation between the static and the dynamic concepts of the atom, Harold C. Urey, Johns Hopkins University.

Influence of sulphur on the color of dyes, E. Emmet Reid, Johns Hopkins University.

Electric moments of molecules, Charles P. Smythe, Princeton University.

Catalysis in homogeneous systems, F. O. Rice, Johns Hopkins University.

Methods for the determination of densities, M. Haring, University of Maryland.