

of the first settlements, circa 1683. With these data in hand, we plan to trace down through the years the effect of man's occupancy on the composition of these original forest types.

The second item will not be very difficult. But the first point—an accurate determination of the composition of the old stands—is a different matter. Source

material is none too plentiful and we shall be grateful if any of your readers who happen to be informed regarding this subject will communicate directly with the writer.

H. H. TRYON

BLACK ROCK FOREST,
CORNWALL-ON-HUDSON, N. Y.

SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

THE IOWA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE fiftieth annual meeting of the Iowa Academy of Science was held at the State University of Iowa at Iowa City on April 3 and 4 with two hundred and thirty-nine members and visitors in registered attendance.

The presidential address, "Paul Bunyan turns Scientist," was presented by Dr. R. E. Buchanan, director of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station. Other papers of general interest were "Research vs. Conservation," by W. W. Aitken, state biologist of Iowa, and "Actuarial Aspects of Old Age Assistance," by L. A. Knowler, of the department of mathematics of the State University of Iowa. The annual address was presented by Dr. W. J. Robbins, professor of botany of the University of Missouri, who also represented the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His subject was "The Relation of Light to Plant Growth and Movement."

At an all-academy dinner commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the academy the following members were honored: Herbert Osborn, first president of the academy, C. P. Gillette, B. Shimek, Charles Carter, S. W. Stookey, Maurice Ricker, G. L. Houser, R. I. Cratty, W. H. Norton, L. S. Ross, E. D. Ball, J. C. Arthur, H. M. Kelly, C. R. Keyes, Paul Bartsch, H. L. Bruner, T. J. Fitzpatrick, F. E. Leverett, Charles D. Reed and H. W. Norris.

The following officers and section chairmen were elected for the next meeting: *President*, L. P. Sherman, Grinnell College; *Vice-President*, A. C. Trowbridge, State University of Iowa; *Secretary-Treasurer* and *American Association for Advancement of Science Representative*, J. C. Gilman, Iowa State College; *Editor*, Mrs. F. W. Nichols, Ames; *Botany and Bacteriology*, R. A. French, Dubuque University; *Chemistry, general and physical*, A. J. Rider, Drake University; *Chemistry, organic and biological*, G. A. Lillis, St. Ambrose College; *Geology*, J. T. Lonsdale, Iowa State College; *Mathematics*, R. B. McClenon, Grinnell College; *Physics*, William Kadesch, Iowa State Teachers College; *Psychology*, Earl E. Emme, Morningside College; *Zoology*, K. A. Stiles, Coe College.

The academy convened in eight sections for the presentation of one hundred and seventy papers of special interest. The Junior Academy of Science of Iowa met with the academy with an attendance of delegates from sixteen clubs. Dr. G. W. Martin and Dr. P. A. Bond, of the State University of Iowa, presented talks on their program.

JOSEPH C. GILMAN,
Secretary-Treasurer

THE ALABAMA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE thirteenth annual meeting of the Alabama Academy of Science was held at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, on Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21, with a registration of one hundred and fourteen.

The academy program was divided into four sections, at which 68 papers were presented as follows:

Section I. Biology and Medicine: 27 papers (4 by title and 4 by demonstration).

Chairman, C. M. Farmer, State Teachers College, Troy.

Secretary, Margaret Hess, Judson College, Marion.

Section II. Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics: 17 papers (3 by title).

Chairman, B. F. Clark, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham.

Secretary, John Xan, Howard College, Birmingham.

Section III. Geology, Anthropology and Archeology: 12 papers.

Chairman, T. G. Andrews, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

Secretary, David L. DeJarnette, Alabama Museum of Natural History, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

Section IV. Industry and Economics: 12 papers.

Chairman, W. M. Mobley, Alabama By-Products Company, Tarrant.

Secretary, Troy Sizemore, Alabama By-Products Company, Tarrant.

On Friday night at the annual banquet at the Thomas Hotel, the presidential address was given by A. G. Overton under the title "Research, its Value and Influence on Recovery." The toastmaster for this occasion was J. L. Brakefield, Howard College. The address of welcome was given by Dr. Luther Duncan, president of the Alabama Polytechnic Insti-

tute, followed by a response from Dr. R. S. Poor, Birmingham-Southern College. Dr. and Mrs. Duncan tendered the guests a reception in the president's mansion after the banquet.

On Saturday morning a geological and archeological field trip was conducted by Walter B. Jones, state geologist, to sites in the vicinity of the new Chewacla State Park. Later the members visited the Tuskegee Institute.

The Alabama Junior Academy of Science held its fourth annual meeting at the same place at this time. Fifteen high schools from all parts of the state were represented.

The officers elected for 1936-1937 are as follows:

President: Dr. Walter B. Jones, state geologist, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa (president-elect for the past year).

President-elect: Dr. Roger Allen, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn.

Vice-Presidents (chairmen of sections):

Dr. C. M. Farmer, State Teachers College, Troy (re-elected), Section I.

Dr. Herman D. Jones, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Section II.

Dr. J. R. Cudworth, director of the State Bureau of Mines Experiment Station, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Section III.

Mr. Fred B. Riggan, Stockham Pipe and Fitting Company, Birmingham, Section IV.

The following officers were reelected:

Secretary: Dr. Septima Smith, University of Alabama (for one year).

Treasurer: Dr. B. F. Clark, Birmingham-Southern College (for two years).

Editor of the Journal: Dr. E. V. Jones, Birmingham-Southern College (for three years).

Councilor to the American Association for the Advancement of Science: P. H. Yancey, Spring Hill College, Mobile.

The next meeting of the academy will be held at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, some time in March, 1937.

SEPTIMA C. SMITH,
Secretary

REPORTS

RESEARCH AT MELLON INSTITUTE DURING 1935-36

MELLON INSTITUTE celebrated this year the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of its industrial fellowship system at the University of Pittsburgh. Since 1911 the institute has had 1,085 industrial fellowships on 268 different subjects of technology, on which 935 scientists and engineers have been employed. Over 500 new or improved processes and products and nearly 2,000 contributions to the literature of pure and applied science have come from these researches. During the past quarter century 363 fellows and 414 fellowship assistants of the institute, having completed their services in the institution, have entered the domains of manufacturing, commerce and education. These trained additions to the forces of industry and teaching constitute the institute's most valuable gift to humanity.

The activities of the institute during the fiscal year, March 1, 1935, to March 1, 1936, are described in the annual report of the director, Dr. E. R. Weidlein, to the board of trustees, just off the press. There was an expansion of the institute's industrial fellowship work in this period, as is shown by the funds received from donors to defray the cost of scientific investigations being conducted for these companies and associations. This money amounted to \$632,547, an increase of \$35,609 over the preceding year. The sum contributed by donors during the last twenty-five years totals \$10,662,091.

At the close of the fiscal year 59 industrial fellowships (17 multiple and 42 individual fellowships), three more than the year before, were in operation. Each of these industrial fellowships was concerned with a major problem of technology, different in subject from the others. These industrial fellowships required the services of 86 fellows and 28 assistants. Thirty-one industrial fellowships have been at work for five years or more, and of these fellowships 13 have concluded 10 years of research, 10 have been operating for 15 years or more, and 4 fellowships are 20 years of age or older. The multiple industrial fellowship on petroleum refining has served its donor 25 years. It is clear from these data that the donors of the industrial fellowships alluded to recognize the need for and value of long-range basic production and merchandising researches. Throughout the fiscal year 1935-36, 66 industrial fellowships (19 multiple and 47 individual fellowships) were active, and 102 fellows and 69 assistants held posts thereon during all or part of the year. During the calendar year 1935 the contributions to the literature by members of the institute included 10 bulletins, 22 research reports, and 58 other papers. Thirty-four U. S. patents and 78 foreign patents were issued to fellows.

The year 1935-36 was characterized by many noteworthy advances through industrial fellowship researches, chiefly a number of new products of commercial promise. Releasable facts relating to this investigational progress will now be summarized.