

The papers sent to the various sections must be related to the main subjects and be as concise as possible. A summary of about one hundred words must reach the secretariat not later than March 31, 1939. The organizing committee will make a final decision in regard to the acceptance of papers. It is provided that it may accept papers bearing upon other subjects, if they are of particular importance and originality.

### THE INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

THE eighteenth session of the International Geological Congress will be held in London from July 31 to August 8, 1940.

At a special meeting recently called by the Geological Society of London and attended by representatives of kindred societies, public bodies and personal donors to the congress funds, it was decided to entrust the preparation and organization of the congress to a general organizing committee. It was also decided to vest the executive authority of the general organizing committee in an executive committee and to recommend to the bureau of the congress that the officers of the general organizing and executive committees be the officers of the congress. These committees were unanimously elected. It was further agreed that the power to add to the membership of the general organizing committee and the executive committee be vested in the council of the Geological Society of London.

Officers of the general organizing committee are:

#### *Honorary President*

Sir William Bragg, president of the Royal Society.

#### *Honorary Members*

The Right Honorable The Lord President of His Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council.

The Lord Lieutenant of the County of London.

The Right Honorable The Lord Mayor of London.

The Chairman of the London County Council.

The Chancellor of the University of Cambridge.

The Chancellor of the University of London.

The Chancellor of the University of Oxford.

The Chancellor of the University of St. Andrews.

The President of the Royal Society.

The President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

The Director-General of the Ordnance Survey.

The Hydrographer of the Navy.

The Director of the British Museum (Natural History).

The Director of the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew.

The Right Honorable Viscount Bearsted, chairman of the Shell Transport and Trading Co.

The Right Honorable Lord Cadman of Silverdale, chairman of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co.

Sir John S. Flett, formerly director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain.

Dr. Alfred Harker, St. John's College, Cambridge.

Sir Thomas Holland, principal and vice-chancellor of the University of Edinburgh.

Sir Albert Seward, South Kensington.

R. I. Watson, Esq., director of the Burmah Oil Co.

Professor W. W. Watts, emeritus professor of geology in the Imperial College of Science and Technology.

Sir Arthur Smith Woodward, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

#### *Officers*

Vice-presidents: the president of the Geological Society of London and the director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain.

General Secretaries: Dr. W. F. P. McLintock, deputy director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, and Professor W. B. R. King, University College, London.

Treasurer: F. N. Ashcroft, London.

No professional title is required from those registering as members of the congress. Nevertheless, the excursions organized before and after the session will be more especially reserved for the members who are geologists, geographers and mining engineers, and for others who devote themselves to the study or practice of some branch of geology.

Proposed subjects for discussion are:

Magnetic Differentiation.

Metasomatic Processes in Metamorphism.

Caledonids in Northwest Europe.

Rhythm in Sedimentation.

The Geology of Iron-Ore Deposits.

The Geology of Coal Seams.

The Geology of Petroleum.

The Geology of Sea and Ocean Floors.

The Stratigraphical Limits of the Ordovician System.

The Pliocene-Pleistocene Boundary.

The Distribution of Early Vertebrates.

Faunal Facies and Zonal Correlation.

Earth Movements and Evolution.

The Geological Results of Applied Geophysics.

An elaborate program of excursions to be taken before, during and after the congress has been arranged. Requests for further information should be addressed to the General Secretaries, International Geological Congress, Geological Survey and Museum, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London, S.W. 7. The address for foreign telegrams and cables is Incegeol, London.

### SYMPOSIA AT THE MILWAUKEE MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

SYMPOSIA at the meeting of the American Chemical Society, meeting in Milwaukee from September 5 to 9, are reported in *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*.

The Division of Agricultural and Food Chemistry has arranged a symposium on the Industrial Utilization of Agricultural Products, in which the Division of Biological Chemistry and possibly the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry will co-

operate. In addition a joint symposium on vitamins and another on patents will be sponsored by the division in cooperation with the Divisions of Biological Chemistry and of Medicinal Chemistry. These three divisions have arranged vitamin symposia for the past seven meetings.

The Division of Colloid Chemistry, together with the Division of Physical and Inorganic Chemistry, has arranged a symposium on the Physical Chemistry of the Proteins. Invitations to participate have been accepted by Drs. Langmuir, Cohn, Kirkwood, MacInnes, Eyring, Stanley, Heidelberger, Abramson and Koets. In addition to the symposium on proteins, the Division of Physical and Inorganic Chemistry is sponsoring symposia on the determination of traces—which members of the microchemical division are invited to attend—on liquid ammonia and on nuclear chemistry.

The Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry will take part in three symposia as follows: Unit Processes, organized by R. Norris Shreve; Surface Active Agents, with F. E. Bartell as chairman; and Electrical Insulating Materials, organized by the Subcommittee on Chemistry, Conference on Electrical Insulation, National Research Council, with F. L. Miller as chairman.

The Division of Organic Chemistry will cooperate with the Division of Sugar Chemistry and Technology in a Symposium on Nomenclature of the Sugars and Their Derivatives and probably with the Division of Physical and Inorganic Chemistry in the symposium on Reactions in Liquid Ammonia.

#### THE ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING OF THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

THE forty-fourth annual summer meeting of the American Mathematical Society, to be held from September 6 to 9, at Columbia University, New York City, will be devoted in large part to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the society. While there will be ten sectional meetings for the presentation of the usual short papers embodying the results of recent mathematical research, the main scientific feature will be the program of invited addresses designed to review some part of the progress of mathematics during the half century of the life of the society. Speakers and their subjects are as follows: R. C. Archibald, Brown University, "History of the American Mathematical Society, 1888-1938"; G. D.

Birkhoff, Harvard University, "Fifty Years of American Mathematics"; E. T. Bell, California Institute of Technology, "Fifty Years of Algebra in America, 1888-1938"; G. C. Evans, University of California at Los Angeles, "Dirichlet Problems"; E. J. McShane, University of Virginia, "Recent Developments in the Calculus of Variations"; J. F. Ritt, Columbia University, "Algebraic Aspects of the Theory of Differential Equations"; J. L. Synge, University of Toronto, "Hydrodynamical Stability"; T. Y. Thomas, Princeton University, "Recent Trends in Geometry"; Norbert Wiener, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "The Historical Background of Harmonic Analysis," and R. L. Wilder, University of Michigan, "The Sphere in Topology." The society is publishing a volume containing these addresses, except Professor Archibald's, under the title of "Semicentennial Addresses." It is publishing also a history of the society by Professor Archibald.

The opening session of the jubilee celebration will be marked by the presence of delegates from over fifty scientific and learned societies, including approximately thirty foreign mathematical societies, those American and Canadian scientific societies whose interests are most closely related to mathematics, and such organizations of general scientific interests as the National Research Council, the National Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The address at this meeting will be delivered by President Nicholas Murray Butler, of Columbia University.

The committee on the semi-centennial celebration is attempting to arrange a meeting distinguished not only for its scientific program, but marked also by a birthday spirit of good fellowship. A particularly festive occasion will be the "Birthday" dinner, at which the society will honor its principal founder and first secretary, Professor Emeritus Thomas Scott Fiske, of Columbia University, who more than any other one person was responsible for the organization of the New York Mathematical Society at a meeting of six persons on November 24, 1888. It was this organization which six years later changed its name to the American Mathematical Society.

In connection with the meeting, there will be an exhibit of mathematical manuscripts, books, models and instruments, arranged by Professor David Eugene Smith.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A MEETING of the representatives of the American and British Associations for the Advancement of Science was planned prior to the Cambridge meeting of the British Association at Lord Rayleigh's Chelms-

ford estate. A discussion was proposed concerning cooperation between the two associations, and perhaps with the corresponding associations of other nations, on international scientific relations, more