

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