

Belgium, was taken up with a visit to the Water Exhibition.

The several sections of the association showed great activity. The question of water occupied a prominent place in the program and was the subject of the following papers: M. Wyart, the states of solid and liquid water studied by x-rays; M. Cabannes, the Raman spectrum of liquid water; M. Kraft de la Saulx, history of the construction of hydraulic machines; M. Tongas, thermodynamic properties of steam; M. Trochon, microphysics of mists considered as aerosols; M. Roulleau, hygrometry; M. Rocard, kinetic theory of liquids; M. Hubault, pollution of waters, their industrial utilization and modifications of their fauna.

The Section of Civil and Military Engineering, under the presidency of M. Campus, was divided into three subsections: theoretical and applied hydraulics; navigable channels and ports; hydraulic works. One session was devoted to colonial hydrography.

The Section of Physics heard communications, among others, from Professors F. Joliot and F. Perrin. The work of the Section of Geology was completed by field excursions; the Section of Botany also had excursions in which the Royal Society of Botany of Belgium and the Liège Botanical Circle joined.

The Sections of Biogeography and of Zoology held several joint sessions with papers on the biology of equatorial lakes (M. Damas), the relations between the internal and external media in aquatic animals (M. Florkin) and the phreatic fauna (M. R. Leruth).

Mention should also be made of the communications presented to the Section of Geography (streams, their utilization and management, demographic and social aspects of water); and to the Sections of Medical Sciences (metabolism of water), of Psychology and Pedagogy, of Radiology and of Odontology.

Special subsections considered technical applications of water, applications of electricity, archeology and folklore.

The communications presented at the meeting will form a special volume published in connection with the Liège meeting.

THE MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE Medical Library Association held its forty-first annual meeting from June 27 to 29, 1939, at the Academy of Medicine of Northern New Jersey, Newark. Officers for 1939-40 are: *President*, Colonel Harold W. Jones, Washington, D. C.; *Vice-president*, Dr. John M. Armstrong, St. Paul; *Secretary*, Miss Anna C. Holt, Boston; *Treasurer*, Miss Louise D. C. King, Baltimore; *Chairman of the Executive Committee*, Miss Mary Louise Marshall, New Orleans.

Miss Linda H. Morley described the varying services and requirements of three general types of medical

libraries: those serving educational institutions; those serving organizations, and those affiliated and housed with a particular organization's staff.

Dr. George H. Lathrope answered the question, "Why Medical History for the Medical Librarian?" First, one's patrons are growing interested in this subject; second, it is a pleasant aid in developing acquaintance with medicine and its terminology; third, it has a distinct cultural value; and fourth, medical history is an almost untouched field for research.

"The Hospital Library and Its Administration" formed the subject of a most useful paper by Miss L. Marguerite Prime. She showed how the medical profession and friends of medical libraries have developed good hospital libraries. Standards have been established for them by the American Medical Association, the Canadian Medical Association and the American College of Surgeons. A general discussion of the organization and administration of the hospital library followed.

Another phase of the library connected with the hospital was portrayed by Miss Ethel Wigmore in her discussion of "The Responsibility of the Medical Library to the Nursing Profession." After sketching the development of libraries for nurses, with special reference to Bellevue, Miss Wigmore drew a picture of their present status in nursing education and of the growth of nursing literature.

Miss Margaret Bates showed in lantern slides a most interesting series of medical postage stamps.

Dr. Karl M. Scott gave a paper on "The Literature of Syphilis," in which he presented a broad picture of the whole subject and its application to the present-day campaign for control of the disease.

Real assistance in the association's endeavor to enlarge its supporting membership was rendered by Dr. Arthur H. Sanford, of the Mayo Clinic, who described the mutual benefits to be secured thereby. Dr. Joseph E. Raycroft's discourse on "Old Wine in New Bottles" quoted writings and archeological records to show that the ancients used certain treatments which are still valuable.

Dr. Max E. Soifer discussed "Dr. Horace Wells, the Discoverer of Anesthesia." "Problems of Microphotography," by Miss Dorothy Hale Litchfield and Dr. Mary A. Bennett, of the Film Library of Columbia University, dealt with the making, use and care of microfilms in libraries.

Dr. Charles H. Young made most interesting his account of the benefits and dangers of aviation to mankind. Aviation medicine is really preventive medicine.

The 1940 annual meeting of the association will be held in Portland, Oregon, at the invitation of the University of Oregon School of Medicine.

ANNA C. HOLT,
Secretary