

mentation. The egoism of old schools who will not admit their sins of omission and commission and the egoism of new schools who dislike to allow any merit to their predecessors are handicaps to progress that

may well be removed by thoughtful attention to a broad-minded history such as this one of Boring's.

R. S. WOODWORTH

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

THE ALABAMA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE nineteenth annual meeting of the Alabama Academy of Science was held at Howard College, Birmingham, on March 20 and 21, President-elect W. M. Mobley presiding. Over one hundred and fifty members and visitors were in attendance. The business and executive meetings were held on Friday. Friday afternoon and Saturday morning were devoted to sectional meetings. Seventy-seven papers were presented.

The following chairmen presided at the section meetings: Biology and Medical Science, Alvin V. Beatty, University; Chemistry, Harold E. Wilcox, Howard College, Birmingham; Geology and Anthropology, E. F. Richards, University; Geography, Conservation and Allied Subjects, Brooks Toler, Division of Forestry, Montgomery; Physics and Mathematics, W. A. Moore, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham; Industry and Economics, John Goff, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn; the Teaching of Science, Miss Clustie E. McTyeire, Hueytown High School, Bessemer.

On Friday members of the academy and visitors were served a delicious complimentary luncheon in Renfro Hall by McKesson-Doster-Northington. The annual banquet was held at the Tutwiler Hotel on Friday evening, with Dean P. P. Burns, of Howard College, as toastmaster. Colonel Theodore Swan, president of the Swan Chemical Company, gave an interesting address on the subject, "Chemistry in Industry." On Saturday morning a geological field trip was conducted by Dr. R. S. Poor, of Birming-

ham-Southern College, through the Walker Gap section of Red Mountain.

At the annual business meeting it was voted to award the grant-in-aid for 1942 from the American Association for the Advancement of Science to Dr. John Xan, of Howard College, to carry on his work on "The Study of the Reaction of Mercaptans with Oxygen in NAOH (Sodium Hydroxide)."

The academy accepted the invitation of Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, for the place of meeting for 1943.

The following officers were elected for 1942-43: *President*, W. M. Mobley, Alabama By-Products Corporation, Tarrant; *President-elect*, E. V. Jones, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham; *Councilor of the American Association for the Advancement of Science*, Septima C. Smith, University, reelected; *Editor of the Journal*, E. B. Carmichael, University; *Counselors to the Junior Academy*, H. E. Wilcox, Howard College (two years); Miss Swan Ella Owens, Opp High School, Opp (three years). The term of office of the treasurer, John Xan, Howard College, continues for two more years, and that of the secretary, Winnie McGlamery, Alabama Geological Survey, University, one more year. R. M. Harper, Alabama Geological Survey, University, continues in office as academy statistician.

The Junior Academy met at the same time as the Senior Academy at the Woodlawn High School, where they had their exhibits and papers under the direction of P. P. B. Brooks, chairman of counselors to the Junior Academy.

WINNIE MCGLAMERY,

Secretary

REPORTS

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN¹

As this report is being written, the fourth I have had the privilege of submitting, the United States has become involved in war. War on the scale required by the present struggle will influence the New York Botanical Garden in various ways, and it seems desirable at this time not only to review the past year, but to report briefly on the entire period during which I have served as director of this institution.

No organization remains quiescent, its material facilities, its staff, its activities, its spirit and morale

¹ From the annual report of the director, Dr. William J. Robbins, for 1941.

change from year to year. Some changes are for the better, some are for the worse, and any group responsible for the conduct and management of a public institution can feel satisfied if the net of the changes over a period of years indicates progress toward a greater usefulness and a closer approximation of the objectives for which the institution was established. This I believe has been accomplished at the New York Botanical Garden, as demonstrated by the record for the years 1937-1942.

No period since the establishment of the garden, the construction of the museum and administration building and of the main display greenhouse, has witnessed