

American Association could not extend its influence efficiently over this region, because of the great extent of our country in longitude, and especially in order that the general scientific interests of the region should be united, it was determined by Professor Bowman and many of his colleagues in the universities and colleges of the Pacific region, and by others engaged in the applications of science, to establish an association of the principal scientific societies already existing in the Pacific area. The organization was effected some five years ago and the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies has been leading a vigorous and useful life. Annual meetings have been held in some of the leading educational centers, such as the University of California, Stanford University and the University of Washington.

Two years ago the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science adopted the policy of organizing divisions of the American Association for the accommodation of those members who live at great distances from the chief centers of American population. In harmony with this policy, a Pacific Coast Committee was appointed to organize a Pacific Division. There was at once the question of the future of the Pacific Association, whose functions were in most essentials precisely those proposed for the Pacific Division. The men and the societies that were making a success of the Pacific Association were identically the men and the societies that would be expected to make a success of the Pacific Division of the American Association. Evidently there must be no duplication. The only practicable solution required that the Pacific Association should give up its identity and that the forces which were active in the Pacific Association should be active in the work of the Pacific Division. It was evident that the Pacific Division offered important advantages over the existing organization, in part from the resulting unification of general scientific interests throughout America. The problem was approached in a sympathetic and unselfish spirit by all concerned, especially by the officers and more active members of the Pacific Association, and by none more efficiently than by Secretary Bowman.

It has seemed to me that the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies, in giving up its existence, should have the principal incidents of its birth, activities and dissolution recorded in this manner as a matter of historical interest.

It should be recognized by every one, it seems to me, that the justification for moral and financial support afforded to scientific investigation rests finally upon the availability of the results for the welfare of mankind and the general progress of civilization. It is hoped that all men and women of the Pacific region who are sincerely interested in scientific research or in the spread of knowledge amongst the people will feel entirely at home in the Pacific Division of the American Association, for the encouragement of research and the dissemination of knowledge are pre-eminently, as every one knows, the functions of the Association and of all its Divisions. The sparsely populated condition of the Pacific region, which includes all United States territory lying west of the Rocky Mountains, as well as Mexico, British Columbia, Alaska and the Islands of the Sea, will unavoidably place a serious limitation upon the success of the Pacific Division unless a very large percentage of the scientists and friends of science in this region subscribe to its membership roll and join enthusiastically in promoting its plans. The yielding of generous support would on the contrary make success prompt and complete.

W. W. CAMPBELL,

*President American Association  
for the Advancement of Science*

MOUNT HAMILTON, CALIFORNIA,

April 14, 1915

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*THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE*

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON POLICY

MESSRS. NICHOLS, Pickering, Woodward, Cattell, Noyes, Humphreys, Fairchild, Paton and Howard, of the committee, met informally in the private dining-room of the Cosmos Club on Monday, April 19, 1915, at 7 P.M. After dinner, the meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Nichols.

The minutes of the meeting of December 31, 1914, were read and approved.

After full discussion a number of resolutions were recommended to the council. These were adopted by the council and are printed in its minutes.

A letter from Ex-president Eliot was read in which he made certain suggestions relative to the possibility of preventing overcrowded programs at the meetings. On motion, the permanent secretary was instructed to arrange, so far as possible, all general interest items in the first, or general, part of the program in order that they may be easily consulted.

Professor Pickering, from the subcommittee on the Colburn Fund, of the committee on research, presented a report.

Professor Cattell presented a report from the Committee of One Hundred on Scientific Research.

Professor Pickering presented a report from the Committee on Expert Testimony.

L. O. HOWARD,  
*Secretary*

#### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

THE council met at 4.45 P.M., April 20, 1915, in room 37, new building of the National Museum, with Messrs. Fairchild, Nichols, Humphreys, Cattell, Kober, Shear, Taylor, Alsberg, Shantz and Howard present.

The meeting was called to order by the permanent secretary and Mr. Fairchild was asked to preside.

The committee on policy submitted a report through its chairman, Mr. Nichols, and, on recommendation of the committee, the following actions were taken by the council:

On nomination by the sectional committee of Section B, Professor E. Percival Lewis, of the University of California, was elected as vice-president of that section in place of Professor Frederick Slate, elected at the Philadelphia meeting, who was unable to serve.

On nomination by the sectional committee of Section H, Professor Lillian J. Martin, of Stanford University, was elected as vice-president of that section in place of Professor

George M. Stratton, elected at the Philadelphia meeting, who was unable to serve.

A resolution was adopted requesting Dr. William W. Campbell, president of the association, to prepare a formal address for the San Francisco meeting in addition to his regular address to be delivered before the association at the winter meeting of 1916-17.

In view of the desirability of rapidly increasing the membership of the newly founded Section M (agriculture), the council, on resolution, directed that the entrance fee of five dollars be remitted for the present calendar year to new members in the Section of Agriculture who may join from the following national societies having a qualification membership:

Society for Promotion of Agricultural Science.  
American Society of Agronomy.

The Society of Horticultural Science.

The American Society of Animal Production.

The Official Dairy Instructors' Association.

On motion, it was resolved to continue the subcommittee of the committee on research constituted at the Philadelphia meeting for consideration of the Colburn will fund.

Professor Roscoe Pound, of the Harvard Law School, was elected as a member of the committee on the amendment of the charter in place of Dr. Charles S. Minot, deceased.

An application from the Gamma Alpha regular program of the association when the Graduate Scientific Fraternity to allow a notice of its meeting to be inserted in the regular program of the association when the conventions of the fraternity were held at the same time and place as the meetings of the association was read and acted upon favorably.

On motion, the committee on policy was authorized to appoint a committee on the international relations of scientific institutions and scientific men.

The financial report of the permanent secretary for the fiscal year from November 1, 1913, to October 31, 1914, was read and, on motion, approved and ordered printed.

The permanent secretary reported briefly concerning the arrangements for the San Francisco meeting and announced that the

## THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

L. O. Howard

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