

## CONDENSED MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 27, 1925

The seventeenth meeting of the Academy (the fourteenth annual meeting) was held at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., on November 27, 1925. The morning session was in the Frierson Hall of the Alumni Memorial Hall, the afternoon session in Room 4, College Hall Building, and the evening session in Furman Hall.

This was the most largely attended meeting in many years, if not the largest of any, and the program was one of the most interesting and satisfactorily presented.

At the morning session the maximum number present, including visitors, was about 125; in the afternoon, about 100, and at night, nearly 100.

The large attendance was doubtless due in the main to the work of Dr. J. T. McGill, who had for the two or three weeks preceding the meeting canvassed the city, especially Vanderbilt University, for new members, and had brought in about 60 applications for membership.

There were interesting discussions of nearly every paper, but as no shorthand reporter was employed, these discussions were not recorded in detail and I can only give the names of those taking part.

The paper of Mr. Beecher Moore, "A Theory of the Sun's Heat," aroused considerable comment. It was discussed by Dr. Parkins, Dr. Glenn, Prof. Sanborn, Dr. Morrison, Dr. Breckenridge, and Dr. Dresslar.

Mr. Fullerton's paper on "Sanitary Conditions in Tennessee, with Special Reference to Water Supplies," was discussed by Messrs. Webb and Breckenridge.

After this paper, the President appointed the following committees: (1) On Nominations of Officers of the Academy for the coming year: Messrs. Glenn, Shaver, Hollinshead, Nunn, Maddox, and Miss King; on Resolutions—Messrs. Dresslar, Parkins, Breckenridge, and Webb; on Auditing the Treasurer's accounts—Messrs. Roberts and Miser; on Special Meetings of the Academy—(subject to amendment of the incoming administration)—Messrs. Peterson, Ganier, Reinke, Shaver, Bishop, Cullen, and Kesler.

Dr. L. C. Glenn then gave a very interesting and scholarly paper on "Reasons for Belief in the Theory of Evolution," which was discussed at some length by Prof. Sanborn.

The annual address of the President was then given by that officer, Prof. Scott C. Lyon, who had for his subject, "Possibilities for a Biological Station at Reelfoot Lake." The paper gave a most

interesting description of the Reelfoot environment, which was followed by practical suggestions for starting a biological station there by the Academy. At the conclusion of the paper, it was moved and carried that the Academy indorse the plans proposed by Prof. Lyon.

Dr. J. T. McGill was then called upon to announce the plans for lunch, which he did, and the meeting adjourned for lunch at the cafeteria in Kissam Hall.

The afternoon session began at 2 p.m., with the presentation of Mr. Latimer Wilson's interesting illustrated paper on lunar observations. Then followed the paper on "Practice Effects on Serial Responses and Their Physical Bases," by Dr. Peterson, which was discussed by Messrs. Fletcher and Sanborn.

Prof. Louis J. Bircher gave a very instructive paper on "Facts Which Support the Electron Theory of the Structure of Matter," which drew some remarks from Prof. Sanborn.

The afternoon program of papers was closed with the address of Mr. Henry E. Colton on "The Great Smoky Mountain National Park Project," illustrated with beautiful pictures (lantern slides).

The business meeting was then held (see account below).

At the evening session in Furman Hall Dr. Hugh D. Miser, State Geologist, gave an illustrated paper on "The Rainbow Natural Bridge, Utah," and showed a series of very fine pictures (lantern slides). This paper was greatly enjoyed by all present.

The closing paper on the program was the very practical and rather technical paper of Dr. William Litterer on "A New Method of Determining Water Pollution." Dr. Litterer showed some of the equipment used and pointed out clearly the advantages of the new method economically, in time and cost.

#### BUSINESS MEETING.

The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m., with a fairly good attendance of members. Prof. Scott C. Lyon, President, presided.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved and the reports of the Secretary-Treasurer were read and received. (For copies of the reports, see the bound file of "Annual Reports of the Secretary-Treasurer"). A large increase in membership was shown and the condition of the treasury was gratifying, with about \$400 on interest-bearing deposit and about \$90 in checking account.

The committee on Mountain Names, which had been standing for two or three years, reported (Dr. L. C. Glenn, Chairman) that the matter of deciding upon the names of the Tennessee-North Carolina mountains was now in the hands of the North Carolina Academy of Science; that a final report from that Academy was expected as soon as action could be taken.

The committee on adoption of a State Flower, Mr. R. S. Maddox, Chairman, asked for more time, which was granted.

TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

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The Committee on Resolutions then reported as follows:

1. Resolved, that the Tennessee Academy of Science, having as its principal objects scientific research and the diffusion of knowledge concerning the various departments of science, is directly interested in the teaching of science in the public schools and colleges of Tennessee, and this society implores, and regards as contrary to the basic principles of freedom and the best interests of citizenship, any attempt to hamper by statute the pursuit of truth and the discovery and teaching of the facts of nature. We therefore desire to record our belief that the Act of the Tennessee Legislature (House Bill No. 185, approved by the Governor March 21, 1925), is in effect an unfortunate limitation of the intellectual freedom of teachers of science in our public schools; that it marks a backward step in our educational program; that it takes away important privileges heretofore available to students, especially those in our higher institutions. In justice to our people and for the welfare of the State, the Tennessee Academy of Science hereby earnestly recommends the repeal of the Act above mentioned at the next session of the State Legislature.

(This resolution was discussed briefly by Dr. H. A. Webb and Mr. A. F. Ganier, both in favor of its adoption; it was then unanimously adopted).

2. Resolved, that the Tennessee Academy of Science enthusiastically commend the plan set before us by our honored President, Dr. Scott C. Lyon, for the establishment and maintenance of a Science Station at Reelfoot Lake, by and under the auspices of the Academy.

(This was unanimously adopted.)

3. Due to the fact that our very faithful and efficient Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Roscoe Nunn, is to be transferred by the U. S. Government from our local Weather Bureau station to a more responsible one at Baltimore, be it resolved, that we express in this formal way as well as in a personal way, our high esteem for his untiring devotion to the progress of science in our State, and particularly to the well being and success of this Academy. We hereby heartily commend him, and regretfully lose him.

(This resolution was adopted by a rising vote. Mr. Nunn responded briefly, expressing his appreciation and saying that he had been more than repaid for what he had done by the pleasant and valuable associations he had enjoyed through his connection with the Academy.)

4. Resolved, that we express our sincere thanks to Vanderbilt University for the privilege of holding our meetings in its buildings.

(This resolution was unanimously adopted).

5. Resolved, that the Tennessee Academy of Science, convened in its fourteenth annual session, express its appreciation of the press

of the State, particularly that of Nashville, for its publication of our programs and all other information relating to its proceedings.

(This resolution was unanimously adopted).

The resolutions were signed by the Committee: F. B. Dresslar, A. E. Parkins, H. A. Webb, and J. M. Breckenridge.

The report of the committee was then adopted as a whole, and the Secretary was instructed to send a copy of Resolution 1 to the press, of Resolution 4 to the Chancellor of Vanderbilt University, and of Resolution 5 to the Nashville newspaper editors.

The Committee on Nominations of Officers for the ensuing year was then called upon for report. It reported as follows:

For President, A. F. Ganier; Vice-President, Dr. C. A. Mooers; Editor, Dr. G. R. Mayfield; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. J. T. McGill.

There being no other nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast the vote of the meeting for the nominees, which he did, and they were declared duly elected.

The incoming President, Mr. Ganier, was called upon for a speech, and he responded briefly, pointing out what he conceived to be some of the outstanding opportunities for the Academy during the coming year. He spoke of affiliation with the A.A.A.S., the plans for a biological station at Reelfoot Lake, the possibilities of establishing a quarterly journal, etc.

The Auditing Committee was called upon for a report, and they reported that the books and accounts of the Secretary-Treasurer were in satisfactory condition.

Plans for affiliation with the A.A.A.S., making arrangements at the earliest practicable date, were discussed further, and on motion, the following delegate and alternate to the council of the A.A.A. S., at Kansas City, in December, 1925, were elected, to attend provided affiliation has been accomplished in time: A. F. Ganier, H. A. Webb.

Mr. P. E. Cox spoke of a proposed museum of the Tennessee Archaeological Society in the War Memorial Building, also of the coming meeting of that Society and invited our members to be present.

ROSCOE NUNN,  
*Secretary-Treasurer.*