

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

THE FIRST THIRD OF A CENTURY OF THE SOUTH
DAKOTA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

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A third of a century ago, a small group of men intensely interested in the organization of a South Dakota Academy of Science met at Aberdeen, South Dakota. It has occurred to me that, since I have been a member of the South Dakota Academy of Science since its organization and have been secretary for twenty-eight years, it might be of interest to some of the members, especially those who have joined more recently, to look back with me through the years and note a few of the instances in which progress has been made.

The first meeting of the South Dakota Academy of Science was held at Aberdeen, S. D., Nov. 22-23, 1915 with a membership of one hundred and seven, one hundred and three of whom were charter members. The number of members present at this first meeting, however, was only twenty. Quite a number of the charter members are still living but only a few have attended the annual meetings the last few years. Our membership list varies from year to year for various reasons, but the average attendance for the past ten years is fifty-five. The present membership is sixty-seven.

It appears that with the exception of the war years, when during the First World War the publication of the Proceedings was seriously interfered with, each year has made advancement in points of membership, attendance at the annual meetings and the number and quality of the papers presented. With few exceptions, all papers presented have shown the results of research which, of course, is as it should be. A number of papers were not submitted for publication in the Proceedings but were in some instances published in other scientific journals. A number of our

members have not missed presenting a paper each year since they were elected to membership.

The Academy has published twenty five volumes of the Proceedings, containing two thousand one hundred and forty three pages of text and cuts. The number of pages per volume varies from twenty four to one hundred fifty. The total number of papers presented from 1915 to 1948 is six hundred and forty three.

In tabulating the titles of papers presented, it has been somewhat difficult to classify some of them, which accounts for the relatively large number listed under miscellaneous. The chart will show the classification.

Agronomy	26
Animal Husbandry	13
Archaeology	7
Astronomy	5
Bacteriology	27
Biology	24
Botany	71
Chemistry	178
Entomology	31
Education	16
Geography	3
Geology	60
History	5
Home Economics	4
Horticulture	2
Mathematics	6
Medical Science	14
Meteorology	2
Ornithology	8
Pharmacy	3
Physics	10
Physiology	11
Psychology	11
Social Science	6
Zoology	59
Miscellaneous	37
Total	639

The Proceedings seems to be gaining in popularity, since there are frequent calls for them from Academies, Colleges, Universities, Manufacturers and individuals, not only in the United States but also in foreign countries. We have on our mailing list Argentina, Canada, England, Finland, France, Italy, Poland, Russia and others, and we are

receiving their publications as issued. I believe that it would be advisable to have the secretary contact all of the Academies in the United States and ask them to send their publications on the exchange basis. Many of the reports in these publications, if available, would be of great value to our members who are interested in research.

Some of the Academies that receive our Proceedings are: California, Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Minnesota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, New York, Rochester, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

Besides the Academies just mentioned, a large number of State Universities, State Agricultural Schools, Private Colleges, Medical Schools, and United States Departmental Libraries receive our Proceedings regularly.

The selection of presidents of the Academy has been rather largely distributed among the various schools of the State, however, one president, the late Doane Robinson, 1921-22, was not connected with any of our schools. Only three members have held the office for more than one year, namely Dr. Hilton Ira Jones of Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, S. D., who served the first two years and is now a consulting chemist at Wilmette, Ill.; Dr. A. N. Hume who is a life member and is still a member of the agronomy Department of State College; and the late H. Gladden Hutton the poet scientist who passed away September 23, 1940. Dr. Hutton, besides taking a very active part in the work of the Academy, had time occasionally to write a poem, one of which I would like to read at this time.

Soil and Soul

The earth a bit of star-dust is,
And all of us but smaller bits
Of that celestial stuff.
In each of us a bit of Soul
That makes us kin
To all that breathes;
In each of us a bit of Soul
That makes us kin to God.

Forget not, O my Soul
The sacred Soil!

The Creator through
An eon's toil
Combined these two,
And said, "It is enough.
My work is good:
In my own image—Man!
And in his mortal time,
In his own hand,
He holds his fate:
To build or ruin,
To plunder or create."

It might be of some use to future nominating committees to have a list of Past-Presidents and Past-Secretaries from 1914-1948. This list has been distributed.

	President	Secretary
1914-15	Hilton Ira Jones, Mitchell	Chas. D. Poor, Aberdeen
1915-16	Hilton Ira Jones, Mitchell	R. J. Gilmore, Huron
1916-17	A. H. Cooks, Vermillion	R. J. Gilmore, Huron
1917-18	A. H. Hume, Brookings	R. J. Gilmore, Huron
1918-19	J. Gladden Hutton, Brookings	R. J. Gilmore, Huron
1919-29	Freeman Ward, Vermillion	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1920-21	Chas. W. Cuno, Yankton	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1921-22	Doane Robinson, Pierre	L. Haines, Vermillion
1922-23	A. H. Hume, Brookings	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1923-24	A. M. Pardee, Vermillion	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1924-25	L. A. Stout, Mitchell	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1925-26	J. Gladden Hutton, Brookings	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1926-27	A. P. Larrabee, Yankton	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1927-28	Homer Hill, Huron	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1928-29	H. C. Severin, Brookings	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1929-30	E. P. Rothrock, Vermillion	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1930-31	V. A. Lowry, Madison	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1931-32	B. B. Brackett, Vermillion	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1932-33	Geo. Gilbertson, Brookings	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1933-34	A. V. Arlton, Mitchell	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1934-35	E. P. Churchill, Vermillion	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1935-36	William H. Powers, Brookings	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1936-37	Gregg M. Evans, Yankton	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1937-38	Charles A. Hunter, Vermillion	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1938-39	Ward L. Miller, Brookings	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1939-40	Walter V. Searight, Vermillion	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1940-41	A. L. Moxon, Brookings	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1941-42	Henry Lowisma, Madison	A. L. Haines, Vermillion
1942-43	Edwin H. Shaw, Jr., Vermillion	A. L. Haines, Vermillion

1943-44	Orin M. Lofthus, Sioux Falls	A. L. Haines,	Vermillion
1944-45	Lester S. Guss, Brookings	A. L. Haines,	Vermillion
1945-46	Raymond J. Greb, Huron	A. L. Haines,	Vermillion
1946-47	F. L. Bennett, Spearfish	A. L. Haines,	Vermillion
1947-48	A. L. Haines, Vermillion	W. E. Ekman,	Vermillion

School	Place	Number of Meetings
Augustana College	Sioux Falls	2
Black Hills Teachers College	Spearfish	1
Dakota Wesleyan University	Mitchell	4
General Beadle State Teachers College	Madison	2
Huron College	Huron	2
South Dakota State College	Brookings	10
University of South Dakota	Vermillion	10
Yankton College	Yankton	3

At the twenty-fifth annual meeting, the Academy, by a unanimous vote, declared all charter members who were active members at that time, life members and excused them from further payment of dues. A certificate of life membership was presented to each member. These certificates are greatly prized by the recipients and are often seen framed and hung in the offices of the members.

Another important undertaking of the Academy was the organization of the Junior Academy of Science. Many of the states have Junior Academies and some of them have what is called a Collegiate Academy of Science whose membership is limited to those of college grade but have not received a degree.

The question of organizing a Junior Academy was discussed at the 1941 annual meeting when a committee of three was appointed to take the matter under consideration and make recommendations at the next annual meeting. This committee made a favorable report and was authorized to arrange a program and invite High School students who were interested in science to attend an organization meeting at the time of the next annual meeting of the Academy. Under the direction of a committee consisting of Dr. Ward L. Miller, chairman, of State College, A. R. Grismer of State College and John T. Barstow of the Vermillion High School, a program was arranged and the Juniors were invited to attend the Academy banquet and the Academy address.

The Junior Academy has continued to meet annually and each year has presented a very creditable program.

The Junior Academy now seems to be well established and should be the source of a goodly number of new members for the Academy. However it is my opinion that the committee should be larger and that at least one member should be a member of the Academy who is teaching in a High School of the State.

Another outstanding action taken by the Academy was affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. At the 1944 annual meeting of the Academy the Secretary was asked to take the necessary steps to fulfill the requirements for affiliation as outlined in a communication from Secretary Moulton of the A.A.A.S. As an affiliated society, we pay no dues and are entitled to one representative on the council of the Association, Dr. Victor S. Webster being our first representative. We are also entitled to a share in the fund that the A.A.A.S. grants to affiliated societies for research conducted by its members.

Other actions were taken by the Academy that mark advancement during the past third of a century, but time will not permit mentioning them.

Not being a prophet I am not able to say what the progress may be in the next thirty years but if we make as much advancement as we have in the past we will have an Academy that we may well be proud of.