

Anonymous.
1886

"Executive Proceedings,"
Proceedings of the American Association for the
Advancement of Science, Thirty-fourth Meeting Held
at Ann Arbor, Mich., August, 1885, Salem: Published
by the Permanent Secretary, pp. 545-546, minutes for
the executive meeting of Friday Morning, August 28, 1885.

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 28.

President NEWTON in the chair.

The GENERAL SECRETARY announced that the STANDING COMMITTEE made the following recommendations:--

1. That the Constitution be so amended that the name of Section D, be changed to Mechanical Science and Engineering.
2. That the Constitution be so amended as to fuse Section G with section F.

The SECRETARY further announced that both these amendments were proposed at the request of the sections principally concerned and read the following resolution passed by Section G:

Resolved: That Section G requests the Association to fuse Section G with section F.

The SECRETARY further announced that in accordance with the constitution the proposed amendments were announced last year in general sessions, but owing to an error of the secretary the announcements are not included in the official records; therefore the Standing Committee recommend that the records be so amended as to make these announcements appear.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the records be thus amended.

It was moved, seconded, and after due explanation by Professor THURSTON of the object of the change, carried, to adopt the amendment to the constitution in regard to Section D, as recommended.

It was moved, seconded, and carried, to adopt the amendment of the constitution in regard to Section G, as recommended.

On behalf of the SECRETARY, Prof. S. P. LANGLEY read the following resolutions recommended to be passed by the STANDING COMMITTEE:--

Whereas, The attention of this Association has been called to the articles in the public press, purporting to give and presumably by authority, an official report of a commission appointed by the Treasury Department to investigate the condition of the U. S. Coast Survey Office, in which report the value of certain scientific work is designated as "meagre."

And whereas this Association desires to express a hope that the decision as to the utility of such scientific work may be referred to scientific men.

Resolved, That the American Association for the Advancement of Science is in earnest sympathy with the government in its every intent to secure the greatest possible efficiency of the public service.

330

Resolved, That the value of the scientific work performed in the various departments of the government can be best judged by scientific men.

Resolved, That this Association desires to express its earnest approval of the extent and high character of the work performed by the U. S. Coast Survey, especially as illustrated by the gravity determinations now in progress, and to express the hope that such valuable work may not be interrupted.

Resolved, That this Association express, also, the hope that the government will not allow any technical rule to be established that shall necessarily confine its scientific work to its own employés.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the head of the Coast Survey should be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, should have the highest possible standing among scientific men and should command their entire confidence.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions shall be prepared by the general secretary and certified by the President of the Association and by the Permanent Secretary, and shall be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury and given to the press.

It was then moved to accept the report and adopt the resolutions. The motion was seconded by Prof. THURSTON who with Prof. JAMES HALL, Capt. COFFINBERRY, Prof. ALEX. WINCHELL, and Prof. MENDENHALL, spoke in favor of the resolution and were warmly applauded. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY