CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

- American Society of Mechanical Engineers—Worcester, Mass., June 4 to 7, 1918.
- American Institute of Chemical Engineers—Annual Summer Meeting, Berlin, N. H., June 19 to 22, 1918.
- American Society for Testing Materials—Atlantic City, N. J., June 23 to 28, 1918.
- National Fertilizer Association—Annual Convention, Atlantic City, N. J., week of July 15, 1918.
- American Pharmaceutical Association—Annual Convention, Chicago, August 12 to 17, 1918.

- American Chemical Society—Fifty-sixth Annual Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio, September 10 to 13, 1918.
- National Exposition of Chemical Industries (Fourth)—Grand Central Palace, New York City, September 23 to 28, 1918.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

The officers of the A. C. S. have decided upon September 10 to 13, 1918, as the date of the Fifty-Sixth Annual Meeting, which is to be held this year in Cleveland, Ohio.

NOTES AND CORRESPONDENCE

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF PLATINUM

The National Chairman of the League is Mrs. Ellwood B. Spear, 27 Walker Street, Cambridge, Mass. The Council is made up as follows:

<i>Arizona</i>	Miss Ada Comstock	Miss Blanche E. Hazard
Mrs. Henry D. Ross	Mrs. Frank D. Ellison	Mrs. Charles H. Herty
	Miss Ethel Hale Freeman	Mrs. B. C. Hesse
<i>California</i>	Mrs. Walter L. Jennings	Miss Isabel Ely Lord
Miss Julia George	Mrs. Arthur E. Kennelly	Miss Annie Louisa Macleod
<i>Colorado</i>	Mrs. Kenneth L. Mark	Miss Margaret E. Maltby
Miss Louise J. Eppich	Mrs. Harold Murdock	Mrs. Roy Martin
Mrs. C. M. Lillie	Mrs. Robert W. Neff	
<i>Connecticut</i>	Mrs. James F. Norris	<i>North Carolina</i>
Mrs. Charles L. Alvord	Miss Ellen F. Pendleton	Mrs. Thomas W. Lingle
Mrs. James R. Bolton	Miss Helen Leah Reed	Mrs. F. R. Venable
Mrs. Percy T. Walden	Miss Caroline Ticknor	
<i>Illinois</i>	Mrs. William H. Walker	<i>Ohio</i>
Mrs. Julius Stieglitz	Mrs. Austin C. Wellington	Mrs. Cornelius Selover
Miss Marion Talbot	Mrs. True Worthy White	<i>Oregon</i>
<i>Maine</i>	Miss Helen M. Winslow	Mrs. Vincent Cook
Mrs. Mary Stone Burnham	Miss Mary E. Woolley	
Mrs. George C. Frye		<i>Pennsylvania</i>
Miss Deborah Morton		Miss Florence Bascom
<i>Maryland</i>	<i>Minnesota</i>	Mrs. E. W. Clark, Jr.
Mrs. Frank C. Matthews	Miss Gertrude H. Beggs	Mrs. Theodore W. Cramp
Miss Mary L. Titcomb	<i>Missouri</i>	Mrs. L. Webster Fox
<i>Massachusetts</i>	Mrs. N. W. Hopkins	Miss Margaret B. MacDonald
Miss Bertha M. Boody	Miss Eva Johnston	Mrs. J. Willis Martin
Miss Abbie Farwell Brown	Mrs. Philip North Moore	Mrs. Howard M. Phillips
Mrs. Samuel V. Cole	<i>New York</i>	Mrs. Alfred S. Weill
Mrs. George W. Coleman	Mrs. Henry Altman	<i>Rhode Island</i>
Mrs. Arthur F. Coolidge	Mrs. Wilder D. Bancroft	Miss Sarah E. Doyle
		Mrs. Maud Howe Elliott
		Mrs. George H. Fowler

The Pennsylvania Chairman has issued 10,000 copies of the following letter:

TO THE WOMEN OF PENNSYLVANIA

This League is asking you to refuse to purchase, or accept as gifts, jewelry and other articles made in whole or in part of platinum, for the following reasons:

Ninety-five per cent of the world's supply of platinum comes from the Ural Mountains. Present conditions in Russia make this source of supply extremely uncertain. Moreover, in 1916, Duparc in a French report on the Ural deposits stated that, at the present rate of working, these would be exhausted in 12 years.

The United States Geological Survey Report on Platinum and Allied Metals in 1917 shows that the total amount mined since its discovery in 1843 is 10,000,000 ounces. Of that amount, one-third has been used unproductively in jewelry; one-third has been used in dentistry, much of which has returned to the earth by burial; one-third has been used in physical and chemical apparatus, in chemical industry, and electrical devices.

Our Government needs platinum to make nitric and sulfuric acids, which are necessary in the production of explosives.

Platinum is absolutely essential in the manufacture of pyrometers which are necessary in all steel treatments—no gun can be made without the use of pyrometers.

Some essential signal instruments are dumb without platinum. Platinum is essential in the composition of certain delicate gun mechanisms.

Our country's electrical defense is dependent on iridium, a rare metal occurring with platinum and used to harden platinum used in jewelry and electrical apparatus.

Our industries need platinum in their control laboratories for the manufacture of nitric and sulfuric acids, drugs, dyes, and fertilizers.

Our educational institutions cannot afford to pay the exorbitant price for the platinum essential to train men for these industries.

The control lever of all chemical industries is analytical chemistry, and platinum is indispensable in that line of work.

Platinum is used in making nitrates from the air for fertilizers and munitions.

Without platinum all experiments in gases would be greatly handicapped.

In other words, while our Government, our industries, and our educators all have serious use for this rare metal, one-third of the world's entire supply has been used unproductively in jewelry.

When the price of platinum was less than gold, women had no desire to use it in jewelry except as a setting for gems. Now that its price is five times that of gold, over fifty per cent of the country's supply is used annually for jewelry. Ask yourselves the reason. Would any woman wear a lead-colored ring or bracelet or adorn herself with lead-colored jewelry except that its artificially produced *high price* has been made to give it a false value in her eyes? When women cease to demand platinum jewelry, platinum jewelry will no longer be made. If you want to have jewels set in a white metal, ask your jeweler to make the settings of rhotanium or white gold. These alloys closely resemble platinum and are just as well suited to the setting of stones. Rhotanium cannot be distinguished by sight from platinum, even by chemists. By using these alloys, you can have your jewelry, save money, and at the same time serve your country by conserving this rare metal for productive uses in the war program.

This League asks that you cooperate in this most important branch of conservation.

Very truly yours,

LOUISE S. Y. WEILL
Pennsylvania Chairman

WEST CHESTNUT AVENUE
CHESTNUT HILL, PA.

SEARLES LAKE OPEN TO LEASE APPLICATION

Secretary of the Interior Lane has announced that the public surveys have been extended over the lands known as Searles Lake, in San Bernardino and Inyo Counties, California, and the township plats forwarded to the United States Surveyor General with direction that the requisite copies be promptly furnished to the United States Land Office at Independence for filing.

Aside from lands patented years ago and lands embraced in subsisting mining claims, there are about 8 sq. mi. of the potash brine zone that are now open to applications for leases, pursuant to the act of October 2, 1917, and the regulations thereunder of March 21, 1918.

The United States Land Office at Independence, Cal., has been instructed to receive applications for leases as soon as the township plats are received, and when the plats have been formally filed 30 days later, to forward the applications to the General Land Office for action. In the meantime publication of notice of application may proceed as required by the regulations.