MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MATHEMATICS TEACHERS OF NEW JERSEY.

The second regular meeting of this Association was held Saturday, May 1st, at the Trenton Normal School. The morning session opened by an address of welcome by Principal Jas. M. Green, and was responded to by Prof. Richard Morris. The Council of the Association then presented its report. This was followed by an address on the "Affine Geometry," by Prof. Oswald Veblen, of Princeton University. The President, Prof. Richard Morris, then presented his address on the "Auxiliary Angle." This address was followed by a paper on "Mathematics and Efficiency," by Dr. Fletcher Durrell of the Lawrenceville School. "First Year Mathematics for a Technical High School" was the subject of a paper given by Mr. Arthur W. Belcher of the East Side High School, Newark. At the close of this paper the meeting adjourned for luncheon, which was served in the normal school building. At this very interesting time the members of the Association were enabled to get more intimately acquainted with each other in discussing the various problems which they meet in their particular lines of work.

At the afternoon session the first paper was read by Prof. Chas. O. Gunther of Stevens Institute on "Trigonometry for the College Student." After a discussion, Mr. J. W. Colliton of the Trenton High School read a paper on the "Study Conference Plan in Mathematics." Mr. Harrison E. Webb of the Central High School Newark, then read an interesting paper on the "Geometric Definition of the Trigonometric Functions." Mr. Webb also presented a second paper on the "Outline of a Course in Advanced Commercial Algebra."

It was agreed by all present that the meeting had been interesting and profitable, and that these meetings should be continued at regular intervals in the future.

A SUGGESTION FOR LABORATORY NOTEBOOKS.

By N. M. GRIER,

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It can hardly be doubted that careful training in the preparation of laboratory notebooks is a valuable potentiality to the student in later life. No small part of this desirable routine is the careful labeling of diagrams of apparatus used and drawings made in the laboratory. But what is frequently an excellent representation of the object at hand is often spoiled as regards its general appearance by the style of printing used in the labels. Freehand lettering, too, is an art which will probably stand most students good after the period of high school notebooks in science.

The writer, in his laboratory work at the Central High School, has found the system of lettering taught in elementary courses of mechanical drawing of great advantage here. Consisting, as it does, of modifications of the letter O and a straight line, he has observed that most students, other than those in the mechanical drawing courses, acquire an ability in such a type of lettering in a relatively short time. It can easily be taught in a synthetic manner, or by having the students merely copy a chart of the letters and numerals used.

While the writer is unable to claim any originality for this procedure, he believes that its practicability justifies greater usage than he has been able to observe. A fuller discussion of this method of lettering may be found in Reinhardt's and Jacoby's texts of *Elementary Mechanical Drawing* and Phillip's *Chapter on Lettering*.