Editor—Professor E. G. Martin, Purdue University.

J. H. RANSOM,
Assistant Secretary.

SOCIETY OF GEOHYDROLOGISTS, WASHINGTON.

THE second regular meeting of the society was held on January 3.

An informal discussion was held as to the desirability of substituting the designation 'Division of Underground Waters' for 'Division of Hydrology' as the name for the section of the United States Geological Survey devoted to the investigation of underground waters. This was followed by the regular program.

Definition of 'artesian.' Discussion by M. L. Fuller, G. B. Richardson, C. E. Siebenthal, C. A. Fisher, W. T. Lee and others.

Supplementary to the paper presented by Mr. Fuller at the preceding meeting summaries were presented of the arguments for the various usages of the term, including: (1) For flowing wells, (2) non-flowing wells in which the water rises and (3) deep drilled wells. The relations of deep wells were analyzed and the established facts bearing on the use of the term enumerated. It was agreed that: (1) The original use of 'artesian' was for flowing wells, (2) that the present usage among scientists is not uniform, the number favoring the restriction of the term to flows varying, in a broad way, inversely with the amount of experience in underground water investigation, (3) the popular usage is likewise exceedingly variable, people in areas of non-flowing wells applying the term to any deep wells, while those in flowing well areas use it for this class of wells only, and (4) no definite meaning can be assigned to the word in a given publication unless a definition is given in the same paper.

Terms to distinguish common wells from wells in which water rises, for flowing and non-flowing hydrostatic wells, for the hydrostatic principle, for the hydrostatic basin, for confined and for unconfined shallow groundwaters were regarded as necessary. It was agreed that the term *artesian* is too expressive to be dropped, notwithstanding its various

usages, and that it is the best word for the hydrostatic principle, for the hydrostatic basin, and for water under pressure. It was not, however, considered desirable to extend such usage, depending as it does upon well-defined properties of liquids, upon definite physical laws, and on fundamental geological conditions to cover the incidental features, like the flows of wells, which are dependent in many cases or mere accidents of topography. The application of 'artesian' to all wells in which the water is under hydrostatic pressure was favored.

Indraft Wells in Southern Georgia: M. L. FULLER.

Two wells sunk in the Vicksburg-Jackson limestone in southern Georgia, and characterized by a continuous indraft of air, have recently been reported by Mr. S. W. McCallie, who investigated the phenomena at the speaker's request. One of the wells, located at Boston, encountered a rapidly moving subterranean stream in the limestone at one hundred and twenty feet, the sound of which was distinctly audible. A strong indraft was noted after the completion of the well, which continued without change until the well was finally connected with a pump. The other well, located in the same general locality, encountered a similar swiftly moving underground stream in the limestone and presented the same strong indraft. Investigation showed that the current was always in the same direction and was independent of barometric pressure and temperature. Mr. McCallie believes that the sucking in of the air is due to the friction of the rapidly moving water on the air, which is drawn in and carried onward until the water rises as one of the large limestone springs of the region. The conditions are almost exactly reproduced artificially in the Richard suction apparatus in use in nearly all chemical laboratories.

M. L. FULLER,
Secretary.

THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY. NEW YORK SECTION.

THE third regular meeting of the New York Section, American Chemical Society, was held