THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE.

(Proceedings of the Stated Meeting held Wednesday, February 19, 1919.)

HALL OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE,
PHILADELPHIA, February 19, 1919.

PRESIDENT DR. WALTON CLARK *in the Chair.*

Additions to membership since last report: 13.

Reports of progress were presented by the Committee on Library and the Committee on Science and the Arts.

The standing committees for the year 1919-1920 were announced.

Mr. Benjamin Franklin, Chairman of the Committee on Science and the Arts, introduced Mr. Tycho Van Aller, of Schenectady, New York, to whom had been awarded the Edward Longstreth Medal of Merit for his Calorizing Process. The President presented the medal and accompanying documents to Mr. Van Aller, who thanked the Institute for the honor conferred upon him.

The paper of the evening on "Oil Shales" was presented by Mr. Dean E. Winchester, Geologist, United States Geological Survey, Grand Valley, Colorado. An outline was given of the characteristics, distribution and value of the oil shales of the United States, together with a discussion of the origin of the oil that may be distilled from the shale. The methods of mining shales were described, as well as the various foreign and domestic processes for the extraction of the oil. Mention was also made of some of the by-products of this industry. A summary of the attempts now being made to develop a commercial oil shale industry was also given.

On motion of Mr. Franklin, duly seconded, the thanks of the meeting were extended to the speaker for his interesting paper.

Adjourned.

GEORGE A. HOADLEY,
Secretary pro tem.