$$x + ijw = \cos^{-1}(X + ijW)$$

where X, W take uniform increments.

A three-dimensional analogue to conformal transformation was briefly noticed.

By means of functions of complex quantities an infinite number of solutions of Laplace's equation can be obtained, as well as of other analogous partial differential equations. Moreover, each solution obtained by Taylor's theorem yields several other solutions, the number depending upon the nature of the complex used.

Mr. L. A. Bauer spoke informally of disturbances just recognized on the record sheets at Cheltenham (Md.) magnetic observatory, that so far can be explained only as due to electric railroad currents, although the nearest point of such a road is thirteen miles away. He also described the precautions taken to protect the German observatory at Potsdam from trolley currents.

CHARLES K. WEAD,
Secretary.

THE OREGON STATE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

THE following papers have been presented before the Oregon State Academy of Sciences:

December 16, 'The Development of the Mushrooms and other Fungi' (illustrated), Professor A. R. Sweetser, State University.

January 20, 'General Motions of the Atmosphere' (illustrated), Mr. Edw. A. Beals, U. S. Weather Bureau, Portland; 'Animals in Mt. Rainier National Park,' Alden Sampson, Washington, D. C.

The first annual meeting of the academy occurred on February 17. President Sheldon, in his annual address, spoke on 'The Past and Future Work of the Academy.' Following the reports of the retiring officers, officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows:

President—Edmund P. Sheldon.
First Vice-president—A. L. Knisley.
Second Vice-president—C. Lombardi.
Third Vice-president—E. A. Beals.
Recording Secretary—Ernest Barton.
Corresponding Secretary—G. E. Coghill.
Treasurer—M. W. Gorman.
Librarian and Curator—L. L. Hawkins.

Trustee (for three years)—President Campbell, State University.

G. E. COGHILL,
Corresponding Secretary.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

DURING January and February, 1906, the society held eight meetings. The papers presented were as follows:

PROFESSOR JOSEPH H. BAIR: 'Recapitulation, and its Bearing on the Problems of Life.'

PROFESSOR JOHN B. EKELEY: 'Important Compounds of Carbon.'

DR. GEORGE H. CATTERMOLE: 'Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels.'

PROFESSOR FREDERIC L. PAXSON: 'The Influence of the West in American History.'

MR. G. S. DODDS: 'Microscopic Plant and Animal Life of Ponds and Ditches.'

DR. MARTIN E. MILES: 'Preventive Medicine.'

DR. SAUL EPSTEEN: 'The Cost of Life Insurance as viewed from a Mathematical Standpoint.'

MR. GEORGE M. CHADWICK: 'The Development of Musical Form.'

The meetings have been well attended, chiefly by members of the faculty and by citizens of Boulder. The attendance has been from fifty to one hundred.

FRANCIS RAMALEY,
Secretary.

BOULDER, COLO.,

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

METEORITE SHOWER AT MODOC, KANSAS.

INVESTIGATION has been made by the writer of the meteorite fall which took place at Modoc, Scott County, Kansas, about 9:30 P.M., September 2, 1905. Mention of the fall was made in the local paper at the time, and in SCIENCE of March 9. The phenomena of the fall were observed by a large number of the inhabitants of Scott and the adjoining counties. The course of the meteorite, as learned by the writer through inquiries in several counties, was nearly due east. The phenomena were a sudden lighting up of the sky by a swiftly moving fireball, 'as big as a washtub,' which quickly exploded with three successive and widening discharges. The ex-