Section and at the afternoon meeting, at which papers were presented, there were present a number of student chemists of the University of Maine. Papers were presented by Mr. A. B. Larchar, of Oldtown, on "Some Practical Observations on the Electrolysis of Brine;" by R. H. McKee on "An Oil from the Red Spruce;" and by L. M. Burghart on "Some New Forms of Chemical Apparatus."

After discussion the meeting temporarily adjourned to give opportunity for the preparation of a lunch which was served in the laboratory. After lunch a short business meeting was called to order by R. H. McKee and a committee nominated the following officers who were elected to serve until organization has been perfected and by-laws adopted: *President of the Section,* A. B. Larchar, Oldtown; *Councilor,* R. H. McKee, Orono; *Secretary and Treasurer,* H. H. Hanson, Orono. The officers named were elected as an executive committee to arrange for the next meeting and to present at that meeting by-laws to govern the Section. H. HANSON, *Secretary.*

ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEES FOR STUDY OF INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

The membership of the Committee on Industrial Diseases of the New York Association for Labor Legislation is made up of the following:

PROF. HENRY R. SEAGER, President of the American Association for Labor Legislation, *Chairman.*

PROF. SAMUEL McCUNE LINDSAY, President New York Association for Labor Legislation, *Ex Officio.*

DR. CHARLES L. DANA, Chairman Committee Public Hygiene, Academy of Medicine, *Ex Officio.*

DR. JOHN B. ANDREWS, Secretary American Association Labor Legislation.

CHAS. BASKERVILLE, Professor of Chemistry, College of the City of New York.

DR. WARREN COLEMAN, New York Academy Medicine.

MR. MILES M. DAWSON, Actuary.

MR. LEONARD W. HATCH, Statistician Department Labor, State of New York.

MR. FREDERICK L. HOFFMAN, Statistician Prudential Life Insurance Co.

DR. JOHN H. HUDDLESTON, New York Academy Medicine.

DR. JAMES ALEX. MILLER, New York Academy Medicine.

DR. W. GILMAN THOMPSON, New York Academy Medicine.

DR. LINSLY R. WILLIAMS, New York Academy Medicine.

PROF. C. E.-A. WINSLOW, College of the City of New York.

MR. PAUL KENNADAY, Secretary New York Association Labor Legislation.

The Committee on Occupational Diseases in Chemical Trades, New York Section of the American Chemical Society, is as follows:

DR. GEO. P. ADAMSON, Baker & Adamson Chemical Co., Easton, Pa.

MR. W. H. BASSETT, American Brass Co., Waterbury, Conn.

MR. WM. F. DOERFLINGER, Mutual Chemical Co. of America, 55 John St., New York City.

DR. A. C. LANGMUIR, Chairman New York Section, 9 Van Brunt St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

DR. GEO. D. ROSENGARTEN, Powers, Weightman & Rosengarten, Philadelphia, Pa.

DR. A. H. SABIN, National Lead Co., 129 York St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

MR. E. C. UHLIG, *Secretary,* Brooklyn Union Gas Co., 5th & Hoyt Sts., Brooklyn, N. Y.

ORGANIZATION OF RUBBER SECTION.

Editor of the Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry:

At a meeting of the Rubber Section of the American Chemical Society held on June 5th, the following committees were appointed:

General Rubber Consideration Committee: D. A. Cutler, *Chairman;* H. van der Linde, W. E. Piper, G. T. Cottle, A. D. Hopkins, D. Spence, Dorris Whipple, C. R. Boggs, H. Fay, W. C. Geer.

Analytical Committee: Dorris Whipple, *Chairman;* J. W. Schade, P. H. Walker, J. B. Tuttle, G. T. Cottle, Geo. Oenslager, W. A. Ducca.

Committee on Specifications: C. R. Boggs, *Chairman;* G. H. Savage, H. Fay, W. C. Geer, H. B. Rodman, D. A. Cutler.

It was also decided to have the General Rubber Consideration Committee ask all the members of the Section to submit the best known method for analyzing rubber goods; the Committee is then to select the best method, submitting same to the American Chemical Society asking the Society to publish this as being the best authority known to it at the present time. The Analytical Committee will, in the meantime and in the future, attempt, by research and such other methods as it may select, to revise this adopted method from time to time, as may seem best for the interests of the Rubber Section, the object being that any chemist in the country who may have occasion to analyze rubber goods may have an authorized standard method of procedure.

When this has been accomplished there should not be such a variance in the results reported from different chemists who analyze vulcanized rubber products. We hope to have this accomplished so that it may be announced at the coming International Conference in September.

D. A. CUTLER, *Chairman.*

PAINT AND VARNISH IN THE U. S. NAVY.

Editor of the Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry:

I notice in your issue of May, 1912, a communication from Professor Sabin, in which he refers to the steps taken recently by the Naval authorities looking toward the use of so-called "newer paint materials."

Professor Sabin seems to be under the impression that the Navy Department expects to find these materials not so efficient as those previously used, and that they are even willing that such should be the case.

As I have been identified, to some extent, with literature on this subject, and a good deal of prominence has been given to a paper which I presented to the Naval Institute in December last, I feel that I should attempt to correct the impression given by Professor Sabin in his letter.

Although one of the arguments advanced in favor of the use of cheaper paint materials was to the general effect that even if they were not quite so lasting, there would be still ample reason for their use in view of the frequent repainting that is necessary from other considerations, the use, however, of materials that are less effective than those heretofore used actually has not been accepted and all of the changes that have been made by the Navy Department have been made only after extensive experiments showed that there would be no loss in efficiency. The changes to date have been the use to some extent of lower priced and more effective paints in place of red lead as a priming coat, the use of hydrocarbon spirits in place of turpentine, the use of blanc fixe in slate colored outside paint for battleships and cruisers, and the tentative use of fish oil in place of a portion of the linseed oil. These changes were not made, however, until, as noted above, the naval authorities were convinced that there would be no loss of efficiency in durability of the paints or in protective effect. HENRY WILLIAMS.

NAVY YARD, NEW YORK.

A COLORIMETRIC METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF CARBON IN IRON AND STEEL. A NOTE OF PROTEST.

The Editor of the Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry:

In the May number of THIS JOURNAL, there is, under the title "A Colorimetric Method of Determining Carbon in Iron and