

the grade on account of the large masses of results which have been published in degree measure and the trouble of continual comparison between the two systems. He thinks, that for navigational and geodetic purposes, the decimal division is far easier to handle, and that the trouble required to make the change is not prohibitive.

Finally, M. Janssen gives his annual report of the work done in the Observatory at the summit of Mont Blanc. This time, he adds to it the history of the foundation of the observatory. It is interesting to notice that the lowest temperature hitherto recorded by the self-registering instruments (-45° C.) was obtained last year.

ERNEST W. BROWN.

NOTES.

THE spring meeting of the Chicago Section of the AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY will be held at the University of Chicago on Saturday, March 29.

THE library of the AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY is now bound and catalogued and ready for use. Members desiring to draw books may do so on applying to the Librarian. Books will be sent, express due, and must be returned within four weeks, express prepaid. Letters of inquiry concerning books, publishers, prices, etc., will be answered by the Librarian, so far as the facilities of the Society's library or of the library of Columbia University permit. It is the desire of the Council and of the Librarian to make the library as helpful as possible to the members. Circulars have been sent to learned societies and institutions, to editors of mathematical journals, and to publishers, asking for coöperation in the plans for enlarging the collection.

It would be fortunate if this library could become an exponent of the mathematical work of the Society. To this end members are invited to contribute copies of their publications, whether of books or of monographs, and to continue to do this as new works appear. Such a library would soon, with slight sacrifice on the part of each member, become an invaluable record of the advance of mathematical thought in America. The Librarian will be glad to acknowledge the receipt of any works of this nature, to inscribe the information that they are gifts from the author to the Society, and to state this fact in the catalogues as they