

THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY ¹

WASHINGTON, D. C., February, 1906.

At a conference recently held in Baltimore for the purpose of discussing the wisdom of forming a national association of sociologists designed to perform for sociology services similar to those rendered political economy by the American Economic Association, about forty specialists in sociology—representing twenty-one educational institutions and a dozen organizations engaged in practical sociological work—decided to form such an association at once and to invite all persons interested in the scientific and philosophical study of society to become members. Among those who attended the conference, as well as among the sixty other sociologists who expressed their views by letter, there was an almost unanimous opinion that regular annual meetings of those interested in the promotion of sociological studies would advance the science and benefit those who are devoting themselves to it.

Several European nations already possess sociological associations which are accomplishing good results. What has succeeded elsewhere ought also to be possible in the United States, where there is certainly as deep, as widespread, and as truly scientific an interest in sociology as in any other country.

Quite as much as the economists, who formed a national association twenty years ago, our sociologists are in need of the stimulus, the encouragement, and the mutual criticism which would come from an organization that is national, permanent, and scientific in character. Theoretical sociology has thus far been built up mainly through the work of one-idea thinkers who have developed their own views to the neglect of much that is valuable in the work of others. Moreover, the relation between the various aspects of sociology—historical or descriptive, analytical or theoretical, and ameliorative or practical—has too often been overlooked. "Practical sociologists" have sometimes known little and cared less for the theoretical and general aspects of the subject. To bring these several groups together would, it was felt, help them all, and at

¹This is a copy of the circular lately issued by the society. We publish it in order to assist the officers in completing the membership as rapidly as possible.

the same time exalt sociology in the eyes of the general public. The new society, therefore, has been founded with the hope of securing the active co-operation of scientific philanthropists as well as of persons engaged in academic instruction, of sociological writers as well as of sociological workers—of all those who recognize the importance of the scientific aspects of sociology.

The membership fee is three dollars a year, or fifty dollars for life membership. Each member will receive a copy of the current publications of the society. You are cordially invited to join by filling out the inclosed [appended] blank and sending it to

PROFESSOR C. W. A. VEDITZ,
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, Washington, D. C.

 1906

To the SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY:

DEAR SIR: I desire to become a member of the AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY. Inclosed please find three dollars in payment of the dues for the year ending December 31, 1906.

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To the SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY:

DEAR SIR: I desire to become a life member of the AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY. Inclosed please find fifty dollars in payment of dues for same.

ERRATUM

In the January number of the *Journal*, in the article on "The Literary Interests of Chicago," page 516, line 19 from top should read:

as sole proprietor, the *Dial* has grown in prestige until today, in