

## Geographic Society Will Observe its 50th Anniversary

BY IRENE STEYSKAL

The Geographic Society of Chicago, a distinguished organization of scientists, explorers and scholarly laymen, which, on Saturday, is celebrating its 50th anniversary, owes its start to a woman, Miss Zonia Haber, 5656 Dorchester st.

It was she who, then education head in the University of Chicago's new department of geography, suggested forming such a society back in February of 1898 to a group of her colleagues, among them the late Prof. Hollis D. Salisbury, who became the first president, and Wallace Atwood, the noted geographer and president emeritus of Clark university.

In the company of 1,000 members assembled at the Geographic's golden jubilee dinner on Saturday night in the Grand ballroom of the Stevens hotel, Prof. Emeritus Haber, now 86 and still active in the affairs of the society, will have the spotlight as guest of the evening.

Plans announced for the anniversary dinner by Dr. Henry M. Leppard, geography professor on the Midway and present president of the society, promise a brilliant celebration. Burton Holmes, dean of travel lecturers, and a member of the society, is to give a panoramic screen program, showing stages in the development of the travel film. Dr. Charles C. Colby, chairman of the department of geography at the University of Chicago, will speak. Medals and citations will be awarded for distinguished service in the field of geography.

Approximately half of the society's 1,500 members are instructors in the universities and other schools in the Chicago area and the other 50 per cent is composed of laymen interested in some aspect of geography. Both wings are represented on the golden jubilee committee planning the evening.

With Dr. Leppard, the group includes Burt A. Massee, insurance company executive and treasurer of the society; Dr. Colby, who is a vice president; Wallace S. Schall, attorney; Solomon B. Smith, Chicago banker; Miss Anna Conwell, executive secretary; Dale O'Brien of the Encyclopedia Britannica management, and Mrs. L. J. Brady.

On the medal and merit awards committee for the jubilee occasion are Dr. Colby, Dr. Clyde F. Kohn of Northwestern university, Dr. Richard Hartshorne of the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Chauncey Harris and Dr. Malcolm Proudfoot of the University of Chicago, William B. Greenlee, and Dr. Fay-Cooper Cole, retired chairman of Chicago's department of anthropology.

Not until the night of the dinner are the names of the award winners to be disclosed, but two are to receive the society's Helen Culver gold medal, instituted in 1907 and named for the donor, and three the Geographic Society of Chicago gold medal, dating from 1913 and provided by members of the society. Roald Amundsen was first to receive them both, the Culver for his Arctic explorations and relocation of the magnetic north pole, and the Geographic's for his achievement at the south pole.

Names to appear subsequently