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present use of power in the United States is about eighty million horse-power or one horse-power per capita. This quantity is likely to increase more rapidly than the population in the future unless curtailed by lack of fuel, but it is evident that a very small fraction of the sun's radiation would meet all demands."

NEWS ITEMS

Mr. E. H. Eaton has been made professor of biology at Hobart College.

Mr. A. J. Grout has been transferred to the Curtis High School, New Brighton, Staten Island.

Dr. J. K. Small has recently been sent to Florida by the New York Botanical Garden for a month's collecting trip.

In December, 1908, New York State, at a cost of about \$600,000, added 15,000 acres to its forest reservations in the Adirondack and Catskill regions.

Mr. Raphael Zon is studying forest management in Europe, preparatory to taking charge of the experimental work of the United States Forest Service.

The Sullivant Moss Society met at Baltimore with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Several interesting papers were presented.

Mr. C. A. McLendon, of the South Carolina Experiment Station, has accepted the position of botanist and plant pathologist at the Georgia Experiment Station.

On January 11 the United States Senate passed a bill appropriating \$90,000 for acquiring all private holdings in the Sequoia and General Grant national parks, California.

Collections are now being made for the New York Botanical Garden along the northern coast of Cuba by Dr. J. A. Shafer, who expects to spend three months in that region.

The State Agricultural College at New Brunswick, New Jersey, offers several short winter courses in general agriculture, fruit farming, market gardening, etc. Tuition is free to residents of the state.

An address by Professor N. L. Britton on "Darwin's Work in Botany" will form part of the Darwin exercises which are to be held at the American Museum of Natural History by the New York Academy of Sciences on February 12.

Dr. James Fletcher, botanist and entomologist, died last November in Montreal. He had served as botanist at the Dominion Experimental Farms, and Dr. L. O. Howard has termed him "the heart and soul of the Botanical Club of Canada."

Earl Grey, Governor-General of Canada, and President Diaz, of Mexico, have been asked by President Roosevelt to send representatives to a national conference on the conservation of natural resources, which will be held in Washington, February 18, 1909.

A prize of \$1000 is offered by the Naples Table Association for promoting laboratory research by women. The prize is awarded in April, 1909, for the third time; it is given for the best thesis, written by a woman, on a scientific subject and must be based on independent research in biological, chemical, or physical science. Further information will be given by Mrs. A. D. Mead, 283 Wayland Avenue, Providence, R. I.

The Baltimore meetings of Section G of the American Association for the Advancement of Science alternated with those of the Botanical Society of America. The vice-presidential address of Professor Bessey was given Tuesday afternoon. An unusually large number of papers — over sixty — was presented, and it was necessary to run two parallel subsections of the section: one for pathology and one for morphology, physiology, ecology, and taxonomy. The officers for next year are: Professor D. P. Penhallow, of McGill University, vice-president, and H. C. Cowles, secretary.

The Botanical Society of America together with the Society for Plant Morphology and Physiology and the American Mycological Society held several sessions in the Eastern High School building. President W. F. Ganong presided. Papers by E. C. Jeffrey and J. M. Coulter on vascular anatomy and its recent development opened the first scientific program. The symposium on ecology included the following papers:

“The Trend of Ecological Philosophy”, H. C. Cowles; “The Present Problems of Physiological Plant Ecology”, B. E. Livingstone; “Vegetation and Altitude”, C. H. Shaw; “Local Distribution of Desert Plants”, V. M. Spalding; and “The Relation of the Climatic Factors to Vegetation”, E. N. Transeau.

A special Darwin Memorial Session was held on Thursday afternoon. The program was as follows :

“General Sketch and Estimate of Darwin’s Work on Cross-pollination in Plants”, William Trelease; “Estimate of Darwin’s Work on Movement in Plants”, H. M. Richards; “Darwin’s Influence on Plant Ecology and Plant Geography”, F. E. Clements.

Many other interesting papers were presented at the regular sessions. Dr. J. C. Bose, by invitation, gave his address on “Electrical Response in Plants.” The address of the retiring president, Professor G. F. Atkinson, was given at McCoy Hall, Tuesday evening. The botanists’ dinner, held on Wednesday evening, was attended by about one hundred and twenty people. The officers for the new year are as follows: President, Roland Thaxter; secretary, Duncan S. Johnson; and treasurer, Arthur Hollick.

An editorial in *Science* for January 8 says in discussing the Baltimore meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, “It seems to be scarcely credible, but it is the case, that there were on the program published by the association the titles of more than one thousand papers to be read at the meeting. The great majority of the papers represent research work of a high order. It is sometimes said that the United States is not doing its part in the advancement of science, but this program is a conclusive answer to such criticism. No other country except Germany could hold a meeting in which so many scientific researches maintaining such high standards could be presented as the result of a year’s work, and Germany has never held such a meeting.”

The Darwin centenary memorial exercises were held January 1, at McCoy Hall, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, as previously announced. Beginning at 10 A. M., the entire day was devoted to the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and of the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of the first edition of the “Origin of Species”. The exercises were held under

the joint auspices of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Society of Naturalists. All the addresses are to be printed in a memorial volume to be published by Henry Holt and Co., of New York. The program for the whole day included :

1. Introductory Remarks, Prof. Thomas C. Chamberlin, University of Chicago, President of the Association.
2. "Fifty Years of Darwinism: Past and Future Experimental Work Bearing on Natural Selection", Dr. Edward B. Poulton, Hope Professor of Zoölogy, Oxford University.
3. "The Theory of Natural Selection from the Standpoint of Botany", Dr. John M. Coulter, University of Chicago.
4. "Determinate Variation", Dr. Charles O. Whitman,* University of Chicago.
5. "The Isolation Factor", Dr. David Starr Jordan,* Stanford University.
6. "The Cell in Relation to Heredity and Evolution", Dr. E. B. Wilson, Columbia University.
7. "The Direct Effect of Environment", Dr. Daniel T. MacDougal, the Carnegie Institution of Washington.
8. "The Behavior of Unit Characters in Heredity", Dr. S. W. E. Castle, Harvard University.
9. "Mutation", Dr. Charles B. Davenport, Carnegie Institution of Washington.
10. "Adaptation", Dr. Carl H. Eigenmann, Indiana University.
11. "Recent Paleontological Evidence of Evolution", Prof. Henry Fairfield Osborn, Columbia University.
12. "Evolution and Psychology", Dr. G. Stanley Hall,* Clark University.

The subscription dinner given in the evening was attended by about three hundred people. Appropriate addresses followed the dinner.

* Not read.