

would be invisible. One of the dealers selling these packages was brought before the Committee and testified that some of the richest people living in Chicago were his customers, buying this substance and knowing that it was oleomargarine, but who desired that the fact of its use by them should be kept secret.

The ethics of coloring butter and oleomargarine was also discussed before the Committee, and it was brought out in evidence that if oleomargarine was colored pink or any other color than butter color its use as butter would be practically destroyed.

Evidence was also given in the matter of making artificial whiskies from cologne spirits, burnt sugar and the ethers of the organic acids, together with the essential oil to give the proper bead. It was developed that the trade in these synthetic drinks was very large, and that the natural products suffer severely in competition.

Much testimony was also given in regard to the adulteration of the ordinary condiments, such as ground pepper, mustard, cinnamon and so forth. It appeared that these bodies were largely mixed with inert matter, so that the purchaser would really get very little of the condiment which he desired. It was shown that ground coffee was mixed largely with chicory and other substances, and that the coffee bean was mixed with an artificial bean or with a certain proportion of the dead or imperfect beans, which were not only useless for flavoring the beverage, but, on the other hand, were bitter and unpalatable.

The session of the Committee in Chicago had for its object the outlining of the scope of the investigation which will be continued during the summer months in other localities of the United States. The final purpose of the Committee is to obtain material on which to base a report in favor of a national pure food and drug bill, having for

its object the regulation of traffic in the adulteration of food in the District of Columbia and the Territories and the control of inter-State commerce in adulterated food and drug products.

AMERIND—A DESIGNATION FOR THE ABORIGINAL TRIBES OF THE AMERICAN HEMISPHERE.

A PART of the proceedings of the Anthropological Society of Washington, at a meeting on May 23d last, seem destined to produce permanent influence on ethnologic nomenclature; this part of the proceedings taking the form of a symposium on the name of the native American tribes. The discussion was opened by Colonel F. F. Hilder, of the Bureau of American Ethnology, with a critical account of the origin of the misnomer 'Indian,' applied by Columbus to the American aborigines; he was followed by Major J. W. Powell, who advocated the substitution of the name *Amerind*, recently suggested in a conference with lexicographers. A communication by Dr. O. T. Mason followed, in which the various schemes of ethnologic classification and nomenclature were summarized and discussed. Contributions to the symposium were made also by Dr. Albert S. Gatschet, Dr. Thomas Wilson and Miss Alice C. Fletcher. At the close of the discussion the contributions were summarized (by President McGee) as follows:

1. There is no satisfactory denotive term in use to designate the native American tribes. Most biologists and many ethnologists employ the term 'American'; but this term is inappropriate, in that it connotes, and is commonly used for, the present predominantly Caucasian population. The term 'Indian' is used in popular speech and writing, and to a slight extent in ethnologic literature; but it is seriously objectionable in that it perpetuates an error, and for the further reason that it connotes

and so confuses, distinct peoples. Various descriptive or connotive terms are also in use, such as 'North American savages,' 'Red Men,' etc.; but these designations are often misleading, and never adapted to convenient employment in a denotive way.

2. In most cases the classifications on which current nomenclature are based, and many terms depending on them for definition, are obsolete; and the retention of the unsuitable nomenclature of the past tends to perpetuate misleading classifications.

3. While the name 'Indian' is firmly fixed in American literature and speech, and must long retain its current meaning (at least as a synonym), the need of scientific students for a definite designation is such that any suitable term acceptable to ethnologists may be expected to come into use with considerable rapidity. In this, as in other respects, the body of working specialists forms the court of last appeal; and it cannot be doubted that their decision will eventually be adopted by thinkers along other lines.

4. As the most active students of the native American tribes, it would seem to be incumbent on American ethnologists to propose a general designation for these tribes.

5. In view of these and other considerations, the name *Amerind* is commended to the consideration of American and foreign students of tribes and peoples. The term is an arbitrary compound of the leading syllables of the frequently-used phrase 'American Indian'; it thus carries a connotive or associative element which will serve explicative and mnemonic function in early use, yet must tend to disappear as the name becomes denotive through habitual use.

6. The proposed term carries no implication of classific relation, raises no mooted question concerning the origin or distribution of races, and perpetuates no obsolete idea; so far as the facts and theories of

ethnology are concerned, it is purely denotive.

7. The proposed term is sufficiently brief and euphonious for all practical purposes, not only in the English but in the prevailing languages of continental Europe; and it may readily be pluralized in these languages, in accordance with their respective rules, without losing its distinctive sematic character. Moreover, it lends itself readily to adjectival termination in two forms (a desideratum in widely-used ethnologic terms, as experience has shown), viz.: *Amerindian* and *Amerindie*, and is susceptible, also, of adverbial termination, while it can readily be used in the requisite actional form, *Amerindize*, or in relational forms, such as *post Amerindian*, etc.; the affixes being, of course, modifiable according to the rules of the different languages in which the term may be used.

8. The term is proposed as a designation for all of the aboriginal tribes of the American continent and adjacent islands, including the Eskimo.

The working ethnologists in the Society were practically unanimous in approving the term for tentative adoption, and for commendation to fellow students in this and other countries.

EXPLORING EXPEDITION TO THE MID-PACIFIC OCEAN.

THE unusual activity now being exhibited by various European governments in scientific exploration of the seas is soon to be supplemented by the United States, for arrangements are being perfected by the United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries for one of the most important marine scientific expeditions ever undertaken in this country. The association of the name of Professor Alexander Agassiz with the expedition is a guarantee of its high scientific standing, and the employ-