

Cholelcytitis with Observations on Gall Stone Formation,' by J. H. Pratt.

*The Popular Science Monthly* for June opens with a timely article on 'Our Forest Reservations,' by J. W. Toumey, in which the subject is discussed from various points of view. David Starr Jordan presents the second instalment of 'The Blood of the Nation,' showing how the slaughter of the flower of the nation in war contributes to the survival of the unfit, and Robert H. Thurston gives the concluding portion of his paper on 'Progress and Tendency of Mechanical Engineering in the Nineteenth Century.' Jas. Lewis Howe discusses 'The Periodic Law,' and Henry A. Rowland's 'A Plea for Pure Science,' is republished as a tribute to his memory, while Gary N. Calkins treats at some length of 'The Malaria Germ and Allied Forms of Sporozoa.' Francis H. Herrick has a well-illustrated article on 'The Wild Bird at Arm's Length; A New Method of Bird Study,' this consisting in removing the branch to which a nest with young birds is attached to some accessible spot near by a green tent, from which the birds are observed and photographed at a short distance. The final article is the sixth portion of 'A Study of British Genius,' by Havelock Ellis, this being devoted to marriage and family.

*Bird-Lore* for May-June opens with an article by John Burroughs on 'A Bewildered Phoebe,' followed by 'Bird-Nesting with Burroughs,' by Frank M. Chapman, well illustrated from photographs. Annie Trumbull Slosson contributes 'A Sudden Friendship,' showing how tame wild birds may suddenly become. The fourth series of 'Birds and Seasons' treats of the forms to be observed from Boston to Stockton, Cal., incidentally including the statement that Dr. W. L. Ralph is to continue the 'Life Histories of North American Birds' which was begun by the late Major Bendire. Among the various articles in the different 'departments' is one of special interest entitled 'A Connecticut Game Preserve,' by Willard G. Van Name, which hints at a successful method of increasing the birds by making a reservation where they are protected at all seasons and fed during winter and whence they spread into adjacent territory.

#### SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

THE NEW YORK SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

THE regular meeting of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society was held May 10th, at the Chemists' Club, 108 West 55th Street, Dr. C. A. Doremus presiding.

The following papers were read :

'The Quantitative Determination of Cadmium,' by E. H. Miller and R. W. Page.

'On the Relation of Chemical Constitution to the Physiological Action of Certain Modern Anæsthetics,' by W. E. Dreyfus.

'Alloys of Titanium and Titanium Steel' by A. J. Rossi.

(a) 'Chemical Nature of the Enzymes,' (b) 'Note on Nucleic Acid,' by P. A. Levene, read by Dr. S. Bookman.

'Analysis of Garden Sage, with Notes on the Determination of Essential Oils,' by L. L. Watters.

Each of the papers received some discussion.

A communication was read from the chairman of the New York Section of Chemical Industry, relative to the appointment by that body of a committee to secure 'uniformity in technical analysis'; and stating that a sub-committee had been appointed to investigate the analysis of Portland Cement. Also that work on this line had commenced and that members of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society were invited to cooperate.

It was moved and seconded that the matters be brought before the council with the recommendation that a committee be appointed to cooperate with the committee of the Society of Chemical Industry.

It was also voted that the chairman of the New York Section be returned as a local delegate to the council of the Society, provided he be not already a member of the council as delegate-at-large.

DURAND WOODMAN,  
Secretary.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MOTION OF A TOP.

THE elementary explanations of this motion generally labor under the difficulty which attended the explanations of the late Professor Pliny Earle Chase, that is, they need an ex-