

\$3 per day, American plan. Persons wishing to join this party should send their names to Dr. I. C. White, Morgantown, W. Va., without delay. During the Association meeting some shorter excursions are proposed, under the direction of Mr. James R. Macfarlane. When the details of the several excursions are perfected, a special circular relating to them will be issued.

The Hotel Schenley has been selected by the local committee, A. A. A. S., as the headquarters.

All persons attending the meetings in conjunction with the A. A. A. S. can secure the customary reduction in railway rates, to one and one third fare for the round trip, by obtaining a certificate at the starting point in the name of the Association. Tickets may be bought from June 19 to June 30.

HERMAN LE ROY FAIRCHILD,

*Secretary.*

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

May 15, 1902.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCE AT THE PITTSBURGH MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

THE next meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at Pittsburgh from June 30 to July 3, 1902. The easily accessible location of the place of meeting, combined with its peculiar economic interest as a great industrial center, offers the opportunity to Section I for an exceptionally successful session. To make it such the hearty cooperation of all members of the Section is needed. They are cordially invited to attend the sessions and to contribute papers to the proceedings. They should inform the secretary as promptly as possible of the title and the probable length of any paper that they may care to present, so that notice of it may appear in the preliminary program.

CARROLL D. WRIGHT,

*Chairman.*

FRANK R. RUTTER,

*Secretary.*

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
WASHINGTON, May 2, 1902.

SHORTER ARTICLES.

STREPTOCOCCI CHARACTERISTIC OF SEWAGE AND SEWAGE-POLLUTED WATERS APPARENTLY NOT HITHERTO REPORTED IN AMERICA.\*

DURING the last few years the brilliant researches of the bacteriologists connected with the Local Government Board of England have revealed two new organisms which, with the *Bacillus coli communis*, are likely to be of great service in tracing the history of water pollution. These are the *Bacillus enteritidis sporogenes* of Klein, and the sewage *Streptococcus* of Houston; so that now with three forms, all apparently characteristic of a sewage flora, the sanitary bacteriologist finds himself in a position to form a reliable opinion of the antecedents of any water submitted to him for examination.

The importance of the streptococci to the sanitarian was first pointed out by Dr. A. C. Houston in an article entitled, 'Bacterioscopic Examination of Drinking Water, with Particular Reference to the Relations of Streptococci and Staphylococci with Waters of this Class,' published in the Report of the Medical Officer to the Local Government Board for 1898-9 (Supplement, XXVIII. Ann. Rep., L. G. B.). He there stated that he had isolated both streptococci and staphylococci from polluted soils, from crude sewage, from sewage effluents and from impure waters; but he laid stress mainly upon organisms of the former class, as germs unlikely to persist for a long period outside the animal body, and therefore indicative of fresh pollution. He concluded by stating that the streptococci 'are organisms readily demonstrable in waters recently polluted and seemingly altogether absent from waters above suspicion of contamination. \* \* \* Search for them should \* \* \* constitute an important part of bacterioscopic analysis of potable waters.' In the report of the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board for 1899-1900 Dr. Houston extended his investigations to the study of a large number of additional samples of polluted waters and soils, with the result that the presence of the streptococci seemed always to coincide with

\* Preliminary communication.