

SCIENCE

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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the Editor of SCIENCE, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS. WHAT ACADEMIC DEGREES SHOULD BE CONFERRED FOR SCIENTIFIC WORK?*

THE CHAIRMAN (PROFESSOR TRELEASE):

The subject that has been selected for the afternoon's discussion is one of very considerable interest to all of us as investigators, and further, to those of us who are teachers as well—the question as to what academic degrees should be conferred for scientific work. From the time when one of our little people comes home from the primary school with a long narrow strip of yellow paper with various hieroglyphics on it that he has made himself, and with certain blue pencil marks which may read 100, or 90, or 40, we are confronted by one phase of the question that we are to analyze this afternoon. The arithmetical grading of our attainments and our personality begins at the very moment that we go into the kindergarten, and it does not end until a well-disposed clergyman tries to find something good to say of the worst of us when we are through with our life's work. Everywhere between the kindergarten and the grave we are confronted with the fact that a kind of stamp is put upon us in every one of the complications of life that we may fall into.

What are we trying to do as teachers is of course perfectly clear to every one of us. Those of us who are teachers are trying to equip people for useful work in life. The situation is not unlike that of cur-

* Annual discussion, St. Louis meeting, December, 1903. Reported stenographically and corrected by the speakers.

Lehrbuch der Mineralogie. Von MAX BAUER, Zweite, Vollig Neubearbeitete Auflage, 1904. Stuttgart, E. Schweizerbartsche Verlags-handlung (E. Nagele). 1904. Pp. xii, Fig. 670.

A second edition has been issued of Dr. Max Bauer's 'Lehrbuch der Mineralogie,' forming one of the most important works in this department of science that has appeared in the German language. It is printed in large clear type upon good paper, with 670 illustrations, and is exceedingly comprehensive and thorough, not only in dealing with the crystallographic, optical and physical features, but in its account of localities and of new species, which are brought absolutely up to date. Dr. Bauer's position as director of the Mineralogical Institute of Marburg, and his long editorship of the *Jahrbuch für Mineralogie und Geologie*, have given him unusual facilities in the preparation of so important a work, and his well known reputation for thoroughness is an assurance as to its being a complete exposition of the subject. It will form an essential addition to every mineralogical library. G. F. K.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

THE May number of *The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease* contains the following articles:

'The Central Localization of the Sensory Tract,' by H. H. Hoppe. It contains a full summary of recent anatomical and pathological work on the central localization of sensory functions. 'Two Tumors of the Brain' are reported on by Dr. T. M. McKennan, and Dr. Smith Ely Jelliffe presents a statistical summary of the work of the neurological clinic of Dr. M. Allen Starr for 1903. He shows that in 16 years 31,600 patients have been treated for nervous disease and that about 4 per cent. of all diseases are of the nervous system. 'Two Cases of Meningeal Tumor' are described by Dr. A. C. Brush. These were treated by ligature of the meningeal vessels. 'The Influence of Fever in the Pain of Locomotor Ataxia' is discussed by Dr. C. W. Burr. This number also contains accounts of the meetings of the Philadelphia

and New York Neurological Societies, and its regular series of abstracts from the leading neurological journals, *Revue Neurologique*, *Neurologisches Centralblatt*, *Deutsche Zeitschrift für Nervenheilkunde*, *Monatschrift für Psychiatrie und Neurologie* and *Jahrbücher für Psychiatrie und Neurologie* being noted in this number.

CONTENTS of the *Journal of Comparative Neurology and Psychology* for April:

O. P. JENKINS and A. J. CARLSON: 'Physiological Evidence of the Fluidity of the Conducting Substance in the Pedal Nerves of the Slug, *Ariolimax columbianus*.'

C. W. PRENTISS: 'The Nervous Structures in the Palate of the Frog: The Peripheral Networks and the Nature of their Cells and Fibers.'

C. L. HERRICK: 'The Beginnings of Social Reaction in Man and Lower Animals.'

ROBERT M. YERKES: 'Inhibition and Reinforcement of Reaction in the Frog, *Rana clamitans*.'

RAYMOND PEARL: 'On the Behavior and Reactions of *Limulus* in Early Stages of its Development.'

Editorial.

G. E. COGHILL: A Critical Digest of Recent Studies on the Finer Structures of the Nerve Cell. Literary Notices.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE April meeting of the society was held Saturday evening, April 23, at the Portner Hotel. Mr. David G. Fairchild acted as chairman of the program. After the regular review of literature Dr. George T. Moore, of the Department of Agriculture, spoke on the subject, 'A Method for the Destruction of Algæ and Pathogenic Bacteria in Water Supplies.' The speaker mentioned briefly the history of some of the serious difficulties that have been experienced by the water departments of many cities as a result of contamination of the reservoirs by algæ of one sort or another. He said that he had received numerous complaints from each state of the union, showing that the trouble is general. Its seriousness in many cases is shown by the fact that controlling engineers have in some cases recommended that supplies representing an investment of several million dollars be