

# 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.

## AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE. SECTION G—BOTANY.

SECTION G of the American Association for the Advancement of Science met at New Orleans during convocation week. In the absence of the chairman, Dr. Erwin F. Smith, the meetings of the section were presided over by Professor S. M. Tracy, and by Professor B. L. Robinson, past-chairman and vice-president of the association. The vice-presidential address, by Professor Robinson, has been printed in full in this journal.

The following papers were presented:

*The Secretion of Salt by the Leaves of Spartina Stricta:* F. H. BILLINGS.

*Improvement of the Quality of Grapes:* T. V. MUNSON.

*The Preparation of Non-toxic Distilled Water:* B. E. LIVINGSTON.

*Ascidia in Fraxinus:* GEORGE H. SHULL.

Specimens, photographs and drawings were exhibited to show the occurrence of ascidia in *Fraxinus Americanus*, and this occurrence was construed as a strong support for the thesis that variations of plants and animals are narrowly limited in kind by the characters they already possess. Although this abnormality must be extremely rare in *Fraxinus*, and has never been recorded, there is a group of young trees near the station for experimental evolution on which it is a frequent occurrence. Of thirty trees taken consecutively eleven bore 103 ascidia, the other trees being entirely normal. The relation of these