

# SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE  
OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1907

## CONTENTS

<i>Systematic Zoology—Its Progress and Purpose:</i> DR. THEO. GILL .....	489
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Barker on Anatomical Terminology:</i> J. P. MCM. GRAY <i>on the Labyrinth of Animals:</i> PROFESSOR C. R. BARDEEN. <i>Stejneger's Herpetology of Japan:</i> R. L. DITMARS .....	505
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>A Plan of Publication for Agricultural Experiment Station Investigations:</i> PROFESSOR H. J. WEBBER. <i>On the Effects of Magnesium Sulphate on Plants:</i> DR. OSCAR LOEW .....	509
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>The Spark Chronoscope:</i> PROFESSOR C. E. SEASHORE. <i>A Vector Diagram:</i> PROFESSOR ELLERY W. DAVIS .....	512
<i>Quotations:—</i>	
<i>Living on our Capital</i> .....	514
<i>Abstracts for Evolutionists:</i> PROFESSOR T. D. A. COCKERELL .....	515
<i>Current Notes on Meteorology and Climatology:—</i>	
<i>Monthly Weather Review; Forests and Rainfall; Influence of Forests upon Wind Velocity; Thunderstorms and "False Cirrus"; Climatology of South Africa; The Weather Bureau; Salt of Marine Origin in the Atmosphere:</i> PROFESSOR R. DEC. WARD .....	517
<i>The Distribution of Radium in the Rocks of the Simplon Tunnel:</i> PROFESSOR J. JULY .....	518
<i>The Arc of Peru:</i> ISAAC WINSTON .....	519
<i>Report of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature:</i> DR. CH. WARDELL STILES .....	520
<i>Wilbur Olin Atwater</i> .....	523
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i> .....	524
<i>University and Educational News</i> .....	526

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

## SYSTEMATIC ZOOLOGY: ITS PROGRESS AND PURPOSE \*

It is most fitting that in this year, when the scientific world is commemorating the natal centenaries of two naturalists who have been regarded as the chief systematists of their times, consideration should be given to the subject and object of their old pursuits. Carl Linné, whose bicentenary has been celebrated, was the man who first provided an elaborate code of laws for the nomenclature of all the kingdoms of nature and set an example to others by provision of concise and apt diagnoses of the groups and species he recognized. Louis Agassiz, who was born during the centenary year of Linné, gave a grand impulse to the study of nature in his adopted country, raised it in popular esteem, taught new methods of work and directed to new lines of investigation.

Of all the students of nature from the time of Aristotle to the century of Linné, none requires present notice as a systematic zoologist except John Ray, who was the true scientific father of the Swede. Born in 1627, he flourished in England during the last quarter of the seventeenth century, and died only two years before the birth of Linné.

### JOHN RAY

It was long ago truly affirmed by Edwin Lankester that "Ray has been pronounced by Cuvier to be the first true systematist of the animal kingdom, and the principal

\* Address before the Section of Systematic Zoology, Seventh International Zoological Congress.