

from a distance. It is because they receive stimuli from and make possible reactions to a wider environment that these sense organs of the head dominate the whole system of phasic reactions; it is for the same reason that the cerebrum is dominant.

Bringing as it does the methods of minute and continued observation and of close reasoning into a field where the casual has been the rule, the book deserves, and requires as well, attentive study. Its importance to the physiologist is evident. The physician will find a number of special topics, such as the nervous symptoms of strychnin poisoning, of tetanus, and of shock, made the subject of careful investigation. The psychologist also will find a number of points of special interest, such as a study of certain fundamental aspects of binocular vision, an experimental test of the James-Lange theory of the emotions, and suggestive analogies between certain laws of spinal reflexes, such as reciprocal inhibition and successive induction, and familiar facts of attention and of sensation.

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#### SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES

THE contents of the June number of *The American Journal of Science* are as follows: "Determination of the Molecular Weight of Radium Emanation by the Comparison of its Rate of Diffusion with that of Mercury Vapor," by P. B. Perkins; "Paleozoic Formations in Trans-Pecos, Texas," by G. B. Richardson; "Rectification Effect in a Vacuum Tube," by H. A. Perkins; "Life of Radium," by B. B. Boltwood; "New Occurrence of Proustite and Argentite," by F. R. Van Horn; "Occurrence of Gedrite in Canada," by N. N. Evans and J. A. Bancroft; "Iodometric Determination of Arsenic and Antimony Associated with Copper," by F. H. Heath.

THE editors of *The Botanical Gazette* announce that the price is to be advanced from \$5.00 to \$7.00 a year on July 1, 1908. They say: "You will easily realize that the financing of *The Botanical Gazette* has always been

a problem, and you will not be surprised to hear that the University of Chicago has been obliged to contribute about \$2,000 annually toward its support. It is not probable that the amount of this subsidy can be increased in the future, and at the same time the cost of production has been growing greater year by year. An interesting comparison has been instituted between *The Botanical Gazette* on the one hand and five leading botanical journals of Europe on the other in the matter of size and prices. It appears that on the average these journals give their readers 648 pages a year each, 12 plates, and 122 text figures, and the average price is \$6.50. The *Botanical Gazette* on the other hand gives 945 pages, 45 plates, and 182 text figures, and its subscription price has been \$5.00 in spite of the greater cost of manufacture in this country. The advice of numerous botanists has been sought and freely given, and with great unanimity their opinion favors the maintenance of the present standard of size with an increased subscription price; for it seems evident that the pressure of publication is increasing rather than diminishing. In view of the whole situation, it has been decided to increase the annual subscription to \$7.00, in the belief that this represents a fair charge for the service rendered. The new rate will be applied to subscriptions begun or renewed with the July number, 1908, and thereafter."

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#### SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES

##### THE CHICAGO SECTION OF THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

THE twenty-third regular meeting of the Chicago Section of the American Mathematical Society was held at the University of Chicago, on Friday and Saturday, April 17-18, 1908.

Professor G. A. Miller, vice-president of the society and chairman of the section, presided at all of the sessions. In opening the meeting he referred to the great loss of the society in the recent death of Professor Heinrich Maschke and appointed a committee, consisting of Professors E. B. Van Vleck, Alexander