

gainer by inspection, as the prevention of dishonest competition is distinctly to his advantage. In the past reputable business houses have been among the first to favor adulteration laws, and it is not improbable that they would welcome further measures. It should be remembered, however, that the trade is ever jealous of its rights and is quick to resent any unnecessary interference.

The chemist has been an important factor in inspection, as on him has devolved the important task of securing evidence as to the character or purity of products and presenting this evidence either in official reports or by testimony in court.

The Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, since its inception, has been pre-eminently a body of inspection chemists and doubtless would never have existed had it not been for laws affecting the sale of fertilizers and foods. The same may be said of the Section of Agricultural and Food Chemistry of this Association. Of the 28 papers to be read at this meeting before the section, at least 19 relate directly or indirectly to inspection, and a great majority of the listeners will doubtless be inspection chemists.

The extension of inspection is continually opening up new and fascinating realms of investigation, and it will be a long time before the analyst need cry for new worlds to conquer.

A. L. WINTON

CHICAGO LABORATORY OF  
BUREAU OF CHEMISTRY,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

#### THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE third annual meeting of the American Sociological Society will be held at Atlantic City, N. J., from December 28 to 31, inclusive, in conjunction with the annual meetings of the American Economic Association, the American Statistical Association and the American Association for Labor Legislation.

The Sociological Society will hold seven sessions, one of which will be a joint meeting with the Economic Association and another of which will be a joint meeting with the American Statistical Association. All seven sessions, however, will be devoted to a discussion of some aspect of the general topic "The Family in Modern Society." This general topic has been divided as follows:

1. Relation of the family to social change. (President's address.)
2. How do home conditions react upon the family?
3. Are modern industry and city life unfavorable to the family?
4. How does the woman movement react upon the family?
5. Has the freer granting of divorce proved an evil?
6. How far should the state go in individualizing the members of the family?
7. How far should family property be conserved and encouraged?

Detailed programs can be had by applying to the Secretary, Professor C. W. A. Veditz, George Washington University, Washington, D. C.

#### THE "UNIVERSITY TABLE" AT THE NAPLES ZOOLOGICAL STATION

FOR a number of years in the past a table was maintained at the Naples laboratory under the above title, half the cost being met by the late William E. Dodge in the name of Columbia University, and half by contributions from other sources. Owing to lack of regular support the subscription for this table unfortunately lapsed for several years. Friends of the university have now made it possible to renew the subscription, and it is hoped that the table may now be permanently maintained under the name of the "Columbia Table." Its use is open to all qualified Americans and applications may be sent to Professor E. B. Wilson, Columbia University, New York City.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Nichols Medal of the American Chemical Society has been awarded to Professor William A. Noyes, of the University of