

vice-president (Dr. L. Hektoen) and for a symposium upon the subject of "The Regulation of Physical Instruction in Schools and Colleges from the Standpoint of Hygiene." On the afternoon of the thirtieth there was a combined meeting with Section K, the Society of American Bacteriologists and the American Society of Biochemists. The following general papers were read and discussed:

"Anaphylaxis," by M. J. Rosenau.

"The Physiological Significance of Creatin and Creatinin," by L. B. Mendel.

"The Cause and Diagnostic Value of the Venous Pulse," by A. W. Hewlett.

The meeting was the largest in the history of the society, more than 80 members being present.

The following were elected to membership: T. G. Brodie, of Toronto; W. W. Hale, of Washington; W. A. Hewlett, of Ann Arbor; A. D. Hirschfelder, of Baltimore; A. Hunter, of Ithaca, N. Y.; D. R. Joseph, of New York; W. J. Meek, of Madison, Wis.; F. R. Miller, of Toronto; F. H. Scott, of Minneapolis; S. Simpson, of Ithaca; C. Voegtlin, of Baltimore.

The following officers were elected:

President—W. H. Howell.

Secretary—R. Hunt.

Treasurer—W. B. Cannon.

Additional Members of Council—A. J. Carlson, W. P. Lombard.

REID HUNT,
Secretary

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGISTS

The twenty-first annual meeting of the American Association of Economic Entomologists was held at the Eastern Female High School, Baltimore, Md., December 28 and 29, 1908. The annual address of the president was presented by Dr. S. A. Forbes, on "Aspects of Progress in Economic Entomology." A full program of interesting papers was presented at each session. A general discussion of the subject "Do we Need the Insectary?" was participated in by many of the members and many important facts were brought out in connection with the use of this important accessory to entomological work.

The report of the secretary showed that the association was making a healthy growth and that it was in a good financial condition.

A considerable amount of important business was transacted at the meeting which included a revision of the constitution, the adoption of a resolution defining the attitude of the association

concerning the proposed affiliation of societies interested in agricultural science and the adoption of memorial resolutions on the deaths of Dr. William H. Ashmead, Alexander Craw, Dr. James Fletcher, Professor W. G. Johnson and Professor F. H. Snow, members who had died during the past year.

A long list of uniform common names of insects were adopted on recommendation of the committee on nomenclature.

Thirty-nine new members were elected.

The following officers were elected:

President—Dr. W. E. Britton, New Haven, Conn.

First Vice-president—Dr. E. D. Ball, Logan, Utah.

Second Vice-president—Professor H. E. Summers, Ames, Iowa.

Secretary—Mr. A. F. Burgess, Washington, D. C.

Member of the Committee on Nomenclature—Professor Herbert Osborn, Columbus, Ohio.

Members of the Advisory Board of the Journal of Economic Entomology—Professor Wilmon Newell, Baton Rouge, La., Dr. H. T. Fernald, Amherst, Mass., and Professor Herbert Osborn, Columbus, Ohio.

Members of the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science—Dr. S. A. Forbes, Urbana, Ill., and Professor H. E. Summers, Ames, Iowa.

The attendance was the largest of any meeting in the history of the association, over a hundred being present at every session.

A. F. BURGESS,
Secretary

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES

THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES SECTION OF BIOLOGY

The regular meeting of the section held at the American Museum on January 11, 1909, was devoted to an illustrated lecture by Professor E. B. Poulton, of Oxford University, on "Mimicry among North American Butterflies." The lecturer was introduced by Mr. Charles F. Cox, president of the New York Academy, who made some brief remarks on selection and mimicry.

Prior to the scientific program a letter was read from Mr. W. K. Gregory, regretfully declining the election to the secretaryship of the section for 1909. Dr. L. Hussakof was then nominated and elected to the office for the same term.

A REGULAR meeting of the section was held at the American Museum, on February 8, 1909, Mr. Frank M. Chapman, chairman of the section, presiding. The following papers were read:

A New Example of Determinate Evolution: Professor BASHFORD DEAN.

In a previous paper the speaker had shown that the egg-capsule of the chimæroids at the time of deposition is adapted with singular precision to the needs of the future embryo, and had given reasons for the view that this adaptation was orthogenetic rather than selectional, in a legitimate sense. It was now shown that the egg-capsules of various chimæroids could be arranged in an orthogenetic series. In this series the head-and-body portion of the capsule becomes progressively shorter, the tail portion more slender, the lateral web disappears, the opening valve increases in length, the serrulæ of this valve reduce to a smaller area, and the respiratory pores of the tail end of the capsule to a longer one. This progressive series is accentuated by the recent discovery of an undetermined capsule from the North Atlantic (? *C. (Bathyalopex) mirabilis*) received by the speaker from Professor Jungersen, of Copenhagen.

Some Interesting Reptiles: Mr. RAYMOND L. DITMARS.

The speaker exhibited a series of living lizards and serpents illustrating the salient features in the evolution and classification of these groups.

The serpents are undoubtedly derived from lizards. Some of the latter possess grooved teeth and a series may be arranged among them showing the progressive decline in morphological and functional importance of the limbs. This series begins with such a form as the dragon lizard (*Basiliscus*) with long hind limbs and which, in running, carries its body clear above ground. In other forms the limbs are not so well developed, so that the body rests entirely on the ground (*Heloderma*) or may even be dragged (*Cyclodes*). A connecting link between serpents and lizards was exhibited (*Ophisaurus*). This form looks exactly like a snake, but is a true lizard.

In the serpents there are no traces of external limbs, though with the boas and pythons internal ones are present. The jaw is greatly distensible, and true grooved or caniculated fangs are developed among many. A number of interesting points in the habits of the serpents were brought out.

Field Observations on the Fin Whales of the North Pacific: Mr. ROY C. ANDREWS.

Mr. Andrews gave an account, illustrated by lantern slides, of his experiences while at the whaling stations on the coast of Vancouver Island and southern Alaska. The paper was devoted to a discussion of the habits of some members of the family Balænopteridæ and of the modern methods employed in their capture. Many reproductions of photographs were shown on the screen illustrating the manner of spouting, diving and feeding of these whales. The speaker dwelt especially upon the peculiar manner in which the nasal region is protruded during respiration, and upon the attitudes assumed by the animals when diving. The method of feeding and the movements during play were also discussed.

L. HUSSAKOF,
Secretary

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

At the 429th regular meeting of the society, February 16, 1909, Mr. Robert Grosvenor Valentine, the Assistant Commissioner of Indian Affairs, delivered an address on "The Unspoiled Indian," illustrating his remarks by the specific instance of the San Carlos Apache. The speaker said that the Indian had suffered less on account of that of which he had been despoiled than from the benefits which had been unwisely conferred upon him. He declared that he must be educated through his home, and therefore it is better to locate schools in Indian neighborhoods rather than remove the Indians from their homes and educate them apart as was the older government policy. In opening lands next to Indian reservations for settlement he believed it was important that the right kind of white men be induced to locate there. He favored opening such lands block by block to companies of settlers who had previously been neighbors rather than the present plan of throwing open all at once and bringing on a spectacular rush from all quarters.

The address provoked a lively discussion participated in by Dr. Merriam, Dr. McGee, Dr. Hough and the speaker, after which the president exhibited some blankets, belts and other articles made by the Apache and Navaho, and Dr. Merriam showed several pendants worked by California Indians out of feathers of the red flicker.

JOHN R. SWANTON,
Secretary