shall be examined by the Geological Survey and a report made to the Secretary of Agriculture, showing that the control of such lands will promote or protect the navigation of streams on whose watersheds they lie.

Those who are familiar with the eventful history leading up to the passage of the Weeks Act know that the principle invoked in section 6 was absolutely essential both to insure the constitutionality of the measure and to secure its passage. The administrative officer, however keenly he may appreciate the spirit which encouraged the movement for the preservation of the Appalachian forests, can not disregard the plain letter of the law on the statute book.

Geo. Otis Smith
U. S. Geological Survey

Suggestions for the Cleveland Meeting

To the Editor of Science: Regarding the preparations for the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Cleveland next year, I desire to suggest the advisability of concentrating the places of meeting so far as practicable, in order that the meeting rooms may be more conveniently found, and persons who wish to pass from one meeting place to another in order to hear a large number of papers read, may be able to do so.

Much of the benefit of these meetings depends on easy access afforded them. For this reason, the best arrangements in many years was that provided in the Central High School at St. Louis. There the basement, and the first- and second-floor classrooms were used for the different sections. Geographers could in a minute's time pass out of their meeting place to hear a paper in the session of the economist and statistican, or *vice versa*. Strangers coming in the building found the directory at the entrance, which told where each section was meeting and the room. There was no wandering about the campus, as at Chicago where some of the sections were located on the third floor of buildings; nor was there any fear of intrusion or collision with professors who had classes to hear, as at the Institute of Technology, Boston; nor was there any wandering about the streets to find where particular sections met, as in Baltimore.

A central building with wide hallways, the posting of a large directory at some outside point on a thoroughfare and the placarding of rooms, with the placard standing at right angles to the door when closed, with somebody at hand to make additional placards as needed—these suggestions seem to me worth while considering to help make our Cleveland meeting one of the best, if not the best on record.

John Franklin Crowell

Chromosomes in Wheat and Rye

In my paper entitled "A Theory of Mendelian Phenomena"[1] I referred to rye as having a small number of chromosomes—"six, I believe," while wheat has "40 or more," and called attention to a possible relation of these supposed facts to the great difference in variability of these two species. This reference to chromosome numbers was made on the basis of a statement made to me some years ago by a student who had made some studies of the subject. Mr. Orland E. White, of the Bussey Institution, calls my attention to the studies of Overton and of Koerniche, which indicate that wheat has sixteen chromosomes ($2X$ number).

W. J. Spillman
Washington, D. C.

How a Falling Cat Turns Over

To the Editor of Science: In your last issue Professor W. S. Franklin mentions having given a valid explanation of how a cat is able to light on his feet when he is dropped back downwards. He does not state what this explanation was; but gives in full a different valid explanation offered by Professor J. F. Hayford. No statement is made as to which explanation agrees with the actual performance of the cat, so it may be of interest to call attention to a set of kinematograph pictures of a falling cat, published as Plate II. of H. Crabtree's "Spinning Tops and Gyroscopic Motion." These pictures corroborate

[1] American Breeders' Association, Report VI.