

fine specimens were secured, and safely brought to New York. The beautiful Bermuda Islands were then but little known to New-Yorkers and the enthusiastic account of their charms given by both Mr. Damon and Professor Bickmore undoubtedly helped much to make that region popular with New-Yorkers and Bostonians.

To this first aquarium venture succeeded another, which was housed for some years in a building on the site now occupied by the Herald Square Theatre. A most appropriate banquet celebrated the opening of this aquarium, the menu of fifty-three courses consisting exclusively of fish. With this foundation Mr. Damon was largely interested and when, finally, the present well-equipped aquarium in Battery Park was established his advice and council were eagerly sought and he was given a deciding voice in the choice of the director.

There can be no doubt that if Mr. Damon could have found an opening enabling him to devote all his time and energies to natural history he would have earned a world-wide reputation in this field, but a leading jewelry house would have lacked his valuable services as part owner and credit-man, services extending for forty years. Nevertheless, his interest in these studies was always great and he found time to make many contributions to the progress of this branch of science. His book entitled "Ocean Wonders" records a number of very interesting experiences gained during his early researches. During his business career he was exceedingly fond of making pedestrian excursions in the environs of New York City, and thus acquired an exceptionally thorough knowledge of the formation of the land in this territory.

His lively interest in scientific pursuits and the recognition accorded him in the scientific world is shown by his membership in the New York Microscopical Society, the Royal Microscopical Society of London, the New York Mycological Club, the Scientific Alliance of New York, the New York Naturalists' Club and the New York Zoological Society. He

was also a member of the New England Society. He is survived by a widow.

GEORGE F. KUNZ

MEMORIAL TO MRS. ELLEN H. RICHARDS

THE third annual meeting and luncheon of the Home Economics Association of Greater New York, held on Saturday at the National Arts Club in that city, took the form of a memorial to Mrs. Ellen H. Richards, late of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and president of the Lake Placid Conference of Home Economics and the American Home Economics Association. The literary program at the luncheon was in charge of Professor Helen Kinne, of the School of Household Arts, Teachers College, the president of the New York association. At the last annual meeting Mrs. Richards was present as the guest of honor and gave an address on the "Conservation of Human Resources." Miss Kinne in introducing one of the speakers, said that probably there was no member of the club whose life had not been touched and quickened by Mrs. Richards. For herself, she said, she had two mental pictures of Mrs. Richards, one in her laboratory at the Institute of Technology, and the other in her home with the flowers.

The first speaker was Miss Margaret Maltby, professor of physics in Barnard College. She told of her first contact with Mrs. Richards while she studied at the Institute in 1887 and of the constant thoughtfulness of the only woman teacher there for the girl students. She said:

Mrs. Richards in an unusual degree combined the qualities of the prophet, the scientist and the practical optimist. She was constantly anticipating lines along which advance would be made. Her imagination was based on a solid foundation of scientific fact and her prognostications were seldom wrong. Her interests were broad and were not confined to any one science. This was shown by her study of medical books, by her use of the weather charts which came daily to her home, and by her activities in many scientific societies. With all this there was a sense of proportion, an instinct for what was feasible, a practical method of attack, a wonderful power of analysis, which was

often astonishing. She was a pioneer in scientific management in the case of the individual as well as of the institution and aimed for the maximum of efficiency for the individual and the race. Environment as expressed in food, shelter and clothing was but the means to an end, the betterment of the race.

Mrs. Mary J. Lincoln, first principal of the Boston Cooking School, told of Mrs. Richards's help in the early days of that institution (now merged with Simmons College), how she sometimes lectured at the school and more often the pupils went to her. At a later period when Mrs. Lincoln was preparing a text-book for public schools, Mrs. Richards gave advice and read proof. "Be careful, that may not be so in ten years," "Better say, 'so far as we know now,'" were some of her comments which prove how her own words were to be trusted.

Of particular interest was the announcement made by Mrs. Caroline Weeks Barrett, chairman of the Ellen H. Richards Home Economics Fund committee. This committee is soon to make definite announcement regarding the memorial to Mrs. Richards which will take the form of a fund to be administered for research and publication for advancing the interests of the home.

We could not think of putting up a dead thing as a memorial to Mrs. Richards, a bronze tablet or even a building. She was a living argument for home economics. How shall we keep her alive? We must give her earthly immortality through a living memorial, something which shall continue to do Mrs. Richards's work with Mrs. Richards's spirit. For this woman who believed in the impossible and helped it to come to pass it is not impossible for us to raise a hundred thousand dollars in dollar subscriptions from those who have felt her influence, to be invested by a board of trustees and used under their direction to establish the *Journal of Home Economics* and later for lectureships, research and publication according to the needs of the time. The collection of funds by personal canvass is soon to be initiated in a country-wide campaign which will enlist committees numbering over a thousand persons who will seek this uniform democratic contribution from men and women interested in advancing the welfare of the home through a memorial to this

woman who as scientist and social engineer did so much for the home.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

AMONG the British New Year's honors are knighthoods conferred on Professor W. F. Barrett, F.R.S., formerly professor of physics in the Royal College of Science, Dublin, and Professor E. B. Tylor, F.R.S., emeritus professor of anthropology in the University of Oxford.

M. LIPPMAN has been elected president, and Professor Guyon vice-president, of the Paris Academy of Sciences.

THE Academy of Sciences at Bologna has awarded the Élie de Cyon prize of 3,000 lire to Professor E. A. Schäfer, of Edinburgh.

THE senate of St. Andrews University has resolved to confer honorary degrees *in absentia* upon gentlemen chosen for the degrees on the occasion of the celebration of the five hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the university in September last, but who were unable to be present. Among them is Dr. Charles D. Walcott, geologist, and secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has designated as Jesup lecturer for 1912-13 Professor H. T. Morgan, of the department of zoology. His lectures will be delivered at the American Museum of Natural History. Professor W. P. Montague, of the department of philosophy, has been appointed to deliver the Hewitt lectures at Cooper Union in the spring of 1913.

MR. RAYMOND A. PEARSON has resigned the office of commissioner of agriculture of the state of New York.

PROFESSOR JOHN B. WATSON, of the Johns Hopkins University, has recently been granted a three years' appointment as a research associate of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, in order that he may study the migratory and other instincts of the sea-gulls of the Tortugas, Florida.

AN expedition to Montego Bay, Jamaica, is about to be undertaken by the department of marine biology of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. In addition to the director, the