in importance, the primary cause of injury being the extraction of electrolytes and perhaps of other substances as well. This extraction by distilled water is regarded as but a special case of the general type of injury wrought on cells by unbalanced solutions whereby certain necessary constituents, undoubtedly in part inorganic, are dissociated from their proper attachments in the complicated chemical and physical mechanism of the living cell. The distilled water seems to withdraw material required for the maintenance of the efficient action of the protoplasmic limiting membranes, with the result that the permeability of the cells is increased, and a further dissociation of electrolytes from their points of combination in the proteids, and other chemical structures of the cell, ensues. These dissociated electrolytes escape from the cell and increase the conductivity of the distilled water. When a trace of calcium ions is present in the distilled water, this dissociating power of the distilled water over the proteids and other chemical mechanisms of the cells is largely developed, and the chemical integrity of the cells is protected in some way not known.

This report is preliminary in its nature and is to be followed at a future date by a further contribution reporting the results of work now under way.

Distilled Water in the Laboratory: R. H. True.

With the discovery made by Nägeli and Loew that copper distilling apparatus may yield water containing traces of copper sufficient to render the water harmful for plant cultures, the use of glass distilling apparatus became general, and carefully distilled water obtained from glass came to receive the general confidence of biologists. While in the majority of cases this confidence is well placed, errors in the interpretation of results are likely to follow a failure to recognize and allow for certain chemical and physiological characteristics of so-called pure water. Aside from the difficulty of obtaining pure water, this substance having been prepared in a pure state but a few times and then by chemists and physicists, there is the further difficulty of maintaining it in a pure state, since it readily becomes charged with gaseous products of the air, and when exposed to the air of the laboratory is especially likely to assume harmful properties for plant cultures—a danger which may be minimized through taking precaution to exclude these impurities from contact with the water. Another source of almost unavoidable contamination is seen in the solubility of the usual glass containers, which, unless specially prepared for the purpose, give up to the water sufficient solids to steadily increase the electrical conductivity.

Since a minimum of impurities will be found even in the purest water obtainable for practical experimental purposes, the action of the dilute solution which goes under the name of distilled water comes up for consideration. It has been shown that "distilled water" is injurious to the roots of certain plants, and that this action is paralleled by, and probably due, in great measure, to, the leaching of constituents necessary to the maintenance of life activities.

When check cultures grown in distilled water are used as a standard of comparison and regarded as normal, great danger of serious error in interpreting the results of biological experiments arises, since the behavior of check cultures in distilled water can not safely be regarded as an expression of normal activity.

It appears that plant physiologists need in their work a normal physiological solution, this normal solution to be such a medium as will cause the least possible disturbance to the usual activities of the plant. While the difficulties introduced by the use of a normal physiological solution are many, and will necessitate great care not only in meeting different requirements of various types of plants, but also with respect to the purity of chemicals used, the insolubility of glassware, the quality of distilled water employed, etc., there seems to be little doubt that such physiologically approximate mixtures are likely to give results much more closely approaching physiological soundness than is possible with the use of distilled water.

George T. Moore
Secretary

JOINT ANNUAL MEETING OF AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AND AMERICAN FOLK-LORE SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association was held in West Assembly Hall, American Museum of Natural History, New York City, December 29–31, 1913, in affiliation with the American Folk-Lore Society. The joint program was unusually long and more cosmopolitan than at any previous meeting, and the sessions were well attended. The thanks of the members of both societies are due to the American Museum

of Natural History for the ample and attractive facilities provided; to the Explorers' Club for the welcome extended to members of the Council, and to Mr. George G. Heye and Professor Saville for a private view of the Heye Museum.

At the Cleveland meeting the secretary was instructed to prepare a list of names of persons eminent in anthropology to be submitted with the view of election to honorary membership at the New York meeting of the association. Pursuant to his instructions the secretary submitted a list which was referred to a committee named by President Dixon: Boas (chairman), Hrdlička, Peabody and the secretary, with instructions to recommend five names. The report of this committee was approved and the following honorary members were elected by the council: Professor Léonce Manouvrier, Paris, France; Professor Karl von den Steinen, Berlin, Germany; Dr. Alfred P. Maudstay, London, England; His Excellency W. Radloff, Saint Petersburg, Russia; Professor Emile Cartailhac, Toulouse, France.

Dr. Goldenweiser reported for the committee appointed to consider the advisability of devoting one number of the journals (*American Anthropologist* and *Journal of American Folk-Lore*) to recent progress in the field of American anthropology in connection with the International Congress of Americanists to be held in Washington, D. C., October 5–10, 1914. The report was accepted and Dr. Goldenweiser was instructed to complete his correspondence with contributors and to send the contributions to the editors for publication. The editor of the *Anthropologist* was instructed to have extra copies of the number in question printed for free distribution among foreign members of the International Congress of Americanists. The contributions already promised are: "Archeology," W. H. Holmes; "Physical Anthropology," A. Hrdlička; "Material Culture," Clark Wissler; "Mythology," Franz Boas; "Linguistics," P. E. Goddard; "Ceremonial Organization," R. H. Lowie; "Religion," Paul Radin; "Social and Political Organizations," A. A. Goldenweiser; "Historical Relations," J. R. Swanton and R. B. Dixon.

Dr. Hrdlička gave a detailed report of the progress made by the local committee in preparation for the forthcoming International Congress of Americanists to be held in Washington, D. C. The American Anthropological Association accepted an invitation to become a member of the congress, to which President Dixon named Franz Boas, of Columbia University, and George Grant MacCurdy, of Yale University, as delegates from the association.

A letter was read from Professor A. L. Kroeber, who expressed the hope that the association would accept the invitation of Mr. James A. Barr, manager of the Bureau of Conventions and Societies of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, to hold a special session in San Francisco during the exposition. Professor Kroeber announced his readiness to do everything in his power to help make such a meeting a success. The invitation was referred to the executive committee with power to act.

The selection of a place for the next annual meeting of the association was likewise left to the executive committee, which has decided that the meeting shall be held in Philadelphia during the Christmas holidays, in affiliation with Section H of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The chair appointed a committee on nominations consisting of Boas, Lowie, Swanton, Gordon and MacCurdy, whose report was accepted by the association, the election of officers resulting as follows:

President—Roland B. Dixon, Harvard University.

Vice-president 1914—George A. Dorsey, Field Museum of Natural History.

Vice-president 1915—Alexander F. Chamberlain, Clark University.

Vice-president 1916—A. L. Kroeber, University of California.

Vice-president 1917—George B. Gordon, University of Pennsylvania.

Secretary—George Grant MacCurdy, Yale University.

Treasurer—B. T. B. Hyde, New York.

Editor—F. W. Hodge, Bureau of American Ethnology.

Associate Editors—John R. Swanton, Robert H. Lowie, and Alexander F. Chamberlain.

The following is a list of the addresses and papers presented:

"The Piltdown Skull," by Charles H. Hawes.

"Ten Days with Dr. Henri Martin at La Quina (Charente), France," by Charles Peabody.

"Paleolithic Art as represented in the American Museum of Natural History, New York," by George Grant MacCurdy.

"The So-called 'Argillites' of the Delaware Valley," by N. H. Winchell.

"Results of an Archeological Survey of the State of New Jersey," by Leslie Spier.

"The So-called Red Paint People Cemeteries of Maine," by Warren K. Moorehead.

"Stone Implements of Surgery (?) from San Miguel Island, California," by H. Newell Wardle.

"Etruscan Influence in West Africa and Borneo," by Earnest Albert Hooton. (By title.)

"Brief Account of Recent Anthropological Explorations under the Auspices of the Smithsonian Institution and Panama-California Exposition," by Ales Hrdlička.

"Results of Excavations at Machu Picchu," by Hiram Bingham.

"The Human Monster-figure on the Nazca Pottery," by Edward K. Putnam.

"Note on the Archeology of Chiriqui," by George Grant MacCurdy.

"The Maya Zodiac at Acanceh," by Stansbury Hagar.

"Chinese Antiquities in the Field Museum," by Berthold Laufer.

"Some Aspects of North American Archeology," presidential address, by Roland B. Dixon, followed by a symposium: "The Relation of Archeology to Ethnology," by Franz Boas, W. H. Holmes, Berthold Laufer, George Grant MacCurdy.

"The Horse and the Plains Culture," by Clark Wissler.

(*a*) "Wayside Shrines in Northwestern California"; (*b*) "Is there Evidence, other than Linguistic, of Relationship between the Northern and Southern Athapascans?" by P. E. Goddard.

"Phratries, Clans, Moieties," by Robert H. Lowie.

"The Social, Political and Religious Organization of the Tewa," by H. J. Spinden.

"Tewa Kinship Terms from the Village of Hano, Arizona," by Barbara Freire-Marreco. (By title.)

"The Cultural Position of the Plains Ojibway," by Alanson Skinner.

"Results of Some Recent Investigations Regarding the Southeastern Tribes of the United States," by John R. Swanton.

(*a*) "Notes on Alonquian Grammar"; (*b*) "Notes on the Social Organization of the Fox Indians," by Truman Michelson.

"My Experiences in the South Seas," by A. B. Lewis. (By title.)

"Field Work Among the Pagan Tribes of the Philippines," by Fay Cooper Cole.

"The Sac-sac or Human Sacrifice of the Bagobo?" by Elizabeth H. Metcalf.

"The Boomerang in Ancient Babylonia," by James B. Nies.

(*a*) "The Huron and Wyandot Cosmogonic Deities and the Iroquoian Sky Gods"; (*b*) "The Wyandot Ukis," by C. M. Barbeau.

"The Clan and the Maternal Family of the Iroquois League," by A. A. Goldenweiser.

"Daily Life of the Southern Pai-Utes Forty Years Ago," by Frederick S. Dellenbaugh.

"The Physical Type of the Burusheki of the Northern Himalaya," by Roland B. Dixon.

"The Eruption and Decay of the Permanent Teeth," by Robert B. Bean. (By title.)

"A Piebald Family of White Americans," by Albert Ernest Jenks.

"Condition Favoring the Development of Totemic Organization," by Franz Boas.

"Outline of the Morphology and Phonetics of the Keresan Dialect," by J. P. Harrington. (By title.)

"The Relation of Winnebago to Plains Culture," by Paul Radin. (By title.)

"Types of American Folk Songs," presidential address, by John A. Lomax.

"A Folk Dance from the Charente, France," by Charles Peabody.

"The Crow Sun Dance," by Robert H. Lowie.

"Notes on the Folk-Lore and Mythology of the Fox Indians," by Truman Michelson.

"Iroquois Totemic Complex," by A. A. Goldenweiser.

"Home Songs of the Tewa Indians," by H. J. Spinden.

"The Ballad in South Carolina," by Reed Smith.

"Negro Lore in South Carolina: (*a*) Tales, Sayings and Superstitions; (*b*) Songs, A Plantation Dance befo' de War," by Henry C. Davis.

"The Bridge of Sunbeams," by Phillips Barry.

"The Japanese New Year," by Mock Joya.

(*a*) "Siuslauan, a Newly Discovered Linguistic Family"; (*b*) "An Ethnological Sketch of the Wailatpuan Tribes of Northeastern Oregon," by Leo J. Fractenberg. (Both by title.)

"Some Aspects of the Folk-lore of the Central Algonkin," by Alanson Skinner.

"An Introduction to the Study of Indian Religion," by Paul Radin. (By title.)

George Grant MacCurdy,
Secretary