Sutton firm, tells me that in England the amount of red shown by the plants differs greatly according to the soil. Even in the same head, however, we may find remarkable extremes. Sometimes the orange rays are irregularly flecked with red, as if some one had been painting near by, and had accidentally touched them here and there. One plant (F_2 from *cornatus* × *primulinus*) had orange rays, the basal half strongly suffused with red; disc before flowering pale yellow (due to color of disc-bracts), except a small triangular section of rather light purple, its apex not quite reaching the center of the disc. A still more singular head (*coronatus* × *annuus*), with a dark disc 44 mm. in diam., and rays 50 mm. long, had the 27 rays variously colored, in order, as follows: (R = deep chestnut red, rather streaky, on basal half or more; Y = orange-yellow, with practically no red; M = medium, between these extremes). Y R R R M M M Y Y Y R R Y Y Y Y Y R R R R R R M Y Y Y Y. Are we to suppose that in these cases irregularities have arisen in the course of the somatic cell-divisions, the whole plant being in an unstable condition as regards the factor for red? Could cytological studies throw any light on this?

A certain analogy may perhaps be found in the occurrence of fasciation in our *lenticularis caronatus* × *annuus* plants. A very fasciated plant, crossed with presumably normal ones through the agency of the bees, gave seven F_1 plants, of which two showed fasciated heads, but others exhibited variously split and divided rays. Here it seemed that a weakness existed, but in some cases only found expression in the most peripheral parts, and to a relatively slight degree. Another set of plants with a fasciated parent showed what looked like supernumerary rays, but they were actually extra elongated lobes borne on the ray florets.

Davis and Salmon[5] have described etiolated or sterile dwarfs which arose in *Œnothera* and *Humulus*. We have obtained the same thing in sunflowers, from heterozygous *coronatus*. A family of thirteen plants had the third, fifth, seventh, ninth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth dwarf and mostly etiolated. With the best care we could give them, all died but two, though the normal members of the series, growing in the same row, showed no evidence of adverse conditions. The two survivors (Nos. 12 and 13) finally flowered at a height of 30 and 27 inches, respectively;[6] one (12) had the disc orange; the rays, bright lemon suffused with orange, long and slender, curled. The other (13) had the disc dark; the rays very short, suffused with red at base. No. 12 produced much pollen; but 13 had the anthers all aborted, shrivelled up within the corolla tube, producing only a very little pollen, presumably not viable. The pistils of 13 were fully exserted and normal, but nothing could be seen of anthers or pollen except on dissection.

T. D. A. COCKERELL
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

[5] B. M. Davis, *American Naturalist*, Aug., 1913, p. 453 et seq. E. S. Salmon, *Jour. of Genetics*, February, 1914, p. 195.

[6] Certain species of perennial sunflowers (*H. filiformis, ciliaris* and *cinereus*) are normally as small as this.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES

THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

AT a special meeting of the society held March 24 at the National Museum, Dr. Albert Hale, of the Pan-American Union, addressed the society on "Modern Argentina," illustrating his remarks with lantern slides. The ethnical elements of Argentina may be best studied in immigration statistics. Of the total number of immigrants arriving in 1857–1912, 4,248,355, more than one half, or 2,133,508, were Italians. The Spaniards numbered scarcely more than half as many as the Italians, or about 1,298,122. Other European races were represented by much smaller numbers than these. The French numbered only 206,912 and the Russians, 136,659. Next to these came the Syrians, of western Asia, with 109,234; then the Austrians and Germans, with 80,736 and 55,068, respectively. The Britons numbered nearly as many as the Germans, or 51,660. The Swiss, Belgians and Portuguese, numbered about 20,000 or 30,000 each; the Danes and Dutch, 7,000 each; the North Americans, 5,500; the Swedes, 1,700, and others 79,251. The relative proportions of Italians and Spaniards arriving during 1912 were the same

as during the entire period, but the Russians and Syrians rose to the next two places in the list.

AT a special meeting of the society held April 7, at the National Museum, Señor F. A. Pezet, Minister of Peru, read a paper on "Contrasts in the Development of Nationality in Latin and Anglo-America." These flow from differences in character, born with the individual or developed through the environment. The Anglo-Americans had been persecuted by religious intolerance; the Latin Americans were adventurous soldiers of fortune. The mixing of the Latin and Indian races was encouraged. The offspring became the "Mestizos." Later the Creoles came into existence, the offspring of European parents born in America. Before 1800 A.D. the Mestizo population of Peru exceeded 250,000. There is now in Peru a large percentage of pure Indian and of Mestizo blood. For more than two centuries the Europeans and the Creoles ruled the Mestizos and the Indians. The Mestizo is nearer the Caucasian than the Indian; physically and morally he is superior to the Indian. Although of less active intelligence than the European or the Creole, he is more strong-willed and painstaking. The Mestizos were prevented from obtaining social position and education.

AT a special meeting of the society held April 14, Mr. S. M. Gronberger read a paper on "The Origin of the Goths." The ancient home of the Goths was undoubtedly situated, he said, on both the northern and southern shores of the Baltic. About 300–200 B.C. another division of this race immigrated into the Scandinavian peninsula, probably across the Danish isles. At the time of the earliest Gothic movement southward, about 215 A.D., the immigrants were probably joined by their Scandinavian brethren, who emigrated from "Scandza." Names of regions and localities in Scandinavia testify to their association with the Goths, the Ostrogoths and the Visigoths. The two races are now merged together and constitute the modern Swedish nation. The Anglo-Saxon poem "Beowulf," furnishes powerful testimony as to the early home of the Goths in Scandinavia and the Danish isles. The Baltic island of Gotland received its name from the Goths, and great numbers of Roman and Byzantine coins and other objects which have been unearthed there afford further proof. Jordanes, Cresiodorus, Tacitus, Procopius and Paulus Diaconus, not to mention the earliest though doubtful evidence of Pytheas of Marseilles, and many other Greek and Roman historians, testify to the Scandinavian or Baltic origin of the Goths. The most ancient tradition relating to the Goths was that they had come originally from Asia. One of the most remarkable runic inscriptions in Scandinavia is that of the so-called Rök Stone, discovered in western Ostrogothia, Sweden. It dates back to 830–840 A.D., or the time of the introduction of Christianity into Scandinavia, and contains an allusion to Theodoric the Great, who afterward ruled as king of Italy. It also refers to four kings of the Danish island of Zealand whose names can be identified with the names mentioned in Jordanes's saga.

The evidence of relationship between the Gothic and the modern Scandinavian and Germanic tongues is also of great importance. The most essential point of resemblance between these languages is the mutual retention in certain cases of "gg" before "w" and "j," as in the genitive plural old English "tweza" (two), Danish "twaeggie," Gothic "twaddje," modern Swedish "twegge."

AT the 474th regular and 35th annual meeting of the society, held May 5, at the National Museum, Dr. Edgar J. Banks, field director of an expedition to Babylonia, read a paper, illustrated with lantern slides, on "Bismya; or, the Lost City of Adab." Bismya flourished in central Babylonia from 4,000 to 2,000 B.C. Inscriptions were found of Dungi, king of Ur, of about 2,200 B.C., and of Naram-Sin and Sargon, the first known Semitic kings, of about 2,800 B.C. Lower were traces of the earlier civilization of the Sumerians, a cultured people who had occupied Mesopotamia for several thousand years. An important discovery was a large marble statue of a Sumerian king called Lugal Da-udu of about 4,000 B.C. Large numbers of stone vase fragments were here found, some inscribed with the names of the kings of the fifth millenium before Christ. The lowest pottery fragments showed that perhaps 15,000 years ago a people with considerable civilization occupied that spot. An ancient Sumerian crematory was found. The Semitic dead were buried. Many collections of clay tablets were found which contained the business documents of Bismya. This people was among the oldest which had a highly developed civilization.

The following officers of the society were elected: *President,* Mr. James Mooney; *Vice-president,* Dr. John R. Swanton; *Secretary,* Dr. Daniel Folkmar; *Treasurer,* Mr. J. N. B. Hewitt; *Councilors,* Mr. Felix Neumann, Dr. I. M. Casanowicz and Mr. Francis LaFlesche.

DANIEL FOLKMAR,
Secretary