Source	Locality	Approx. Cap. Liters per Min.	Corrected Div. per Min. per Liter.	Equivalent in Radium 10⁻¹² Gram	Remarks.
Spring	Arlington, R.I.	10	87.78	57.93	Graphite mine.
Spring	Arlington, R. I.	6	70.80	46.71	Nr. car barn.
Spring	Nr. Wilbur Ave.	3	17.74	11.70	On Woonsocket car line.
Spring	Girard's Hatchery	30	16.98	11.19	Mineral Spring Ave.
Spring	Quinsnicket Park	5	15.65	10.33	Called Cool Spring.
Spring	Girard's office	.....	5.85	3.86	150-gal. tank.
Well	Nr. Bristol, R.I.	.. ..	4.21	2.78	60 ft. deep.
Spring	Smithfield Ave.	1	3.39	2.24	Nr. reservoir.
Spring	Johnson, R. I.	.....	3.34	2.20	Ochee.
Spring	E. Providence	2	1.78	1.18	On Lion Farm.
Well	College pump	.....	1.10	.73	On Campus.
Well	In heating plant	.....	1.03	.68	On Campus (unused).
Tap water	Eng. Lab.	.....	.05	.03	From city reservoir.

formation is such that the water comes in all probability from a considerable depth. Graphite is now being mined near the surface. Several samples of this graphite were powdered and tested qualitatively in an α ray electroscope. Only slight traces of radioactive content could be found.

I am indebted to Professor B. B. Boltwood, of Yale University, for the standard solution used in calibrating the electroscope.

Brown University, P. B. Perkins
June 14, 1915

Societies and Academies

The Anthropological Society of Washington

At the 489th meeting of the society, held October 19, 1915, Dr. D. S. Lamb read a paper on "The Medicine and Surgery of the Ancient Peruvians." They used Peruvian bark for fevers. It is doubted whether syphilis, leprosy and tuberculosis occurred among them, although some infer that skin tuberculosis caused the mutilations represented on their pottery. Three skin diseases peculiar to the ancient Peruvians were the *mirunta*, the *verrugas* and the *uta*. Smallpox, measles, scarlet fever and yellow fever were introduced by the whites. Goiter prevailed; also the *tabardillo*. The heads of their infants were deformed. They let blood and treated dislocations, wounds and fractures, and trephined the skull. Dr. E. L. Morgan and others who discussed the paper agreed with the speaker in thinking that trephining had probably begun with the idea of getting rid of the evil spirit but was continued for its observed curative value. The idea of ridding the patient of an evil spirit was common to all primitive peoples. In the Iroquois language, said Mr. J. N. B Hewitt, the expression used in case of sickness is, "It is biting me." Dr. C. L. G. Anderson held that the megalithic people who preceded the Incas also knew much about medicinal herbs. They made infusions, powders and ointments of them. Sulphur, salty earths and hot springs were used as cures of rheumatism and skin diseases. Sarsaparilla, coca and quina were local drugs used.

Daniel Folkmar,
Secretary

New Orleans Academy of Sciences

The regular meeting of the academy was held in Tulane University on Tuesday, October 18. Dr. Gustave Mann presided. The paper of the evening was by Professor O. M. Rosenwall on "Some Methods of Offense and Defense among Insects."

The paper outlined the orders of insects which were to be touched upon and the specific insects which were to be referred to. As far as possible, insects found in the state of Louisiana were used as examples.

Among all the methods mentioned, those which were "active in defense," made up the material for the greater part of the paper, and these were mainly the "repugnatorial glands." This means of defense was possessed by some species of nearly all the important orders, and mainly in Coleoptera, Hemiptera and Orthoptera.

In many of the insects the appendages are adapted as means of defense, *e. g.*, mandibles and front-legs. At this point, the "praying mantis" was discussed, being one of the common insects of this region.

Then followed the use of "stings" in connection with "poison-glands," and the following subjects were discussed briefly: "Poisonous Saliva," "The Repellant Fluid of Several Species of Coleoptera," "Phosphorescence" and "Protective Attitudes"; the paper closing with "The Means of Defense among Insect Larvæ."

An interesting discussion among members took place after the reading of the paper, and examples of the insects discussed were on exhibition. The academy then adjourned.

R. S. Cocks,
Secretary