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#### GUSTAV SCHWALBE

THE death is announced of Professor Doctor Gustav Schwalbe, one of the most distinguished anatomists of Germany, who, established in recent years his leadership in the subject of human anatomy through his broad and profound knowledge of comparative anatomy. His analysis of the human remains of the Lower Paleolithic, beginning with the type Neanderthal skull, resulted in the recognition of *Homo neanderthalensis* as a distinct species of the human race. This has been followed by many other penetrating studies from which an entirely new system of cranial measurements has been deduced, namely, an internal system which takes account of the proportions of the brain in place of the external system of Brocca and the older anatomists based on the superficialities of the skull. Following the lamented death of Eberhard Fraas, the paleontologist, the loss of Schwalbe will be severely felt in the University of Strassburg. All those who enjoyed the pleasure of the acquaintance of this distinguished anatomist and who recall his genial and modest personality will deeply lament his death.

HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN

#### THE RURAL ROADSIDES IN NEW YORK STATE

By investigations just completed by the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse, it has been found that nine tenths of the roadsides in the rural districts of New York state are entirely void of shade trees. When this is considered along with the fact that last year New York state paid out of the state treasury about \$30,000,000 for the construction and maintenance of roadbeds, it shows that the state is not yet awake to the great need and the great possibilities in rural roadside improvement.

The preliminary survey which has just

been made by H. R. Francis in charge of the landscape extension work of the College of Forestry, covered nearly 3,000 miles of the main lines of highways passing through such important points as Rochester, Buffalo, Jamestown, Olean, Hornell, Corning, Ithaca, Cortland, Elmira, Binghamton, Oneonta, Kingston, Hudson, Albany, Schenectady, Glens Falls, Lake Placid, Malone, Potsdam, Watertown, Utica, Rome and Syracuse.

During the survey studies were made of such important features in rural roadside improvement and beautification as good and bad varieties of trees found along the highways, views and vistas obtained from the highways, the effects of the shade trees on crops in adjacent fields, the possibilities of the covering of barren embankments and the planting of some desirable sort of vegetation where overhead wires are in large numbers. One of the principal features studied was the condition of the roadbed as affected by the presence or absence of shade trees.

A detailed study of the main state highway east and west between Albany and Buffalo will be made immediately by the State College of Forestry. The observations which have already been made in all sections of the state together with the information obtained by the detailed study will be used as a basis for an educational publication to be issued by the college and distributed very widely to organizations in the state, such as the automobile clubs, women's clubs, commercial associations, granges, farm bureaus and the State Forestry Association and other individuals interested in this development.

This is the first comprehensive study to be made of the landscape treatment of the rural roadsides in the state and the college predicts a wider appreciation of the possibilities and the necessity for the planting and preservation of forest trees along the rural roadsides. Few people in the state will be able to visit the wonderful national parks of the west, but an increasing number of people will own automobiles and use the highways of the state. Many if not all of these highways may easily become state park ways of beautiful trees and

shrubs. Trees grow like weeds under the climatic conditions existent in New York and with varied scenery of intense interest the highways of the state will eventually become as beautiful as those of any other state in the union.

#### THE NEW YORK MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

A MEETING of the American Chemical Society will be held in conjunction with the Second National Exposition of Chemical Industries, September 25 to 30, inclusive. A council meeting is called for Monday afternoon and Monday evening. A general meeting follows on Tuesday morning, and on Tuesday afternoon it is hoped to have a public meeting in the large hall at the City College, with addresses by prominent men bearing upon "Chemistry and the National Welfare." On Tuesday evening a general "get-together" entertainment will be given by the New York Section complimentary to the parent society, to which visiting chemists will be invited. On Thursday evening the Electrochemical Society will give a smoker, to which the members of the American Chemical Society will be invited, and on Friday evening a subscription banquet will be held in one of New York's large hotels.

Meetings of divisions will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings. One of the special features of the meeting will be general conferences on special subjects in which the chemists of the country are now interested. The idea of these conferences is to have some important topics such as

- Glassware and Porcelain,
- Steel Alloy Metals,
- Paper and its Utilization,
- Oils and Motor Fuels,
- Convertibility of Plant,
- Medicinal Chemicals,
- Dyestuffs and their Relation to Munition Factories,
- Industrial Alcohol, Acetone and Formic Acid,

the discussion to be started by some well-known specialists in these lines. No set program is planned for these conferences, but it is believed from past experience that chemists interested

in these various lines will get together and many interesting points will be brought out which will be of mutual interest. The topics for these conferences have not as yet been determined upon, and suggestions are desired from members of the society. These suggestions will all be placed before the Program Committee, and some six or eight topics selected therefrom. It is anticipated that two conferences will be in session each afternoon at the same time, one in the lecture hall of the Grand Central Palace, where the Second National Exposition of Chemical Industries will be held, and one in the lecture hall of the Chemists Club.

The president's address will be one of the general papers at the public meeting on Tuesday. The division of biological chemistry, physical chemistry and industrial chemistry will hold a joint symposium on colloids on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. On Wednesday morning the symposium will be of a theoretical nature, in which the industrial division will not take part. On Thursday morning the symposium will be composed of industrial application of colloid chemistry. A symposium on occupational diseases is also planned and is to take up part of one of the morning sessions of the industrial division.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A MEMORIAL to Major Walter Reed, of the army, who demonstrated the transmission of yellow fever by mosquitoes, is planned for the campus of the University of Virginia of which he was a graduate.

PROFESSOR JULIUS STIEGLITZ, of the University of Chicago, and Dr. Leo Baekeland, of New York, were given the honorary degree of doctor of chemistry by the University of Pittsburgh at its recent commencement.

THE degree of D.C.L. has been conferred by the University of Oxford upon Douglas William Freshfield, M.A., University College, president of the Royal Geographical Society.

DR. CHARLES H. MAYO was the guest of honor at a banquet given on June 22, by the citizens of Rochester, in recognition of his