

and finger nail. Eight other plants of the same age and all from the 1914 crop of seed were treated similarly except that the finger nail was moistened in macerated mosaic leaves before pinching each leaflet to be inoculated. Over three months have elapsed since the above inoculations were made, but no signs of mosaic have developed on any of the checks or on the inoculated plants. On all the leaves, however, the scars of the finger nail injury are visible.

As the original mosaic plant has matured in the meantime, leaving no fresh leaves to use for inoculation, it seems advisable to present this data so that others may be led to record any observation they may make along this line.

J. A. McCLINTOCK

VIRGINIA TRUCK EXPERIMENT STATION

#### THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE SECTION C—CHEMISTRY—AT THE NEW YORK MEETING

On Wednesday, December 27, at Columbia University, there was a joint session of Sections B and C, the American Chemical Society and the American Physical Society, devoted to a symposium on the structure of matter. The attendance was very large, and Havemeyer Hall was filled to capacity. The main items on the program have already been printed in a recent number of *SCIENCE*.<sup>1</sup> These papers<sup>2</sup> and the subsequent discussion brought out the fact that there is still a wide divergence between the various views, particularly between those of the physicist and those acceptable to the chemist; the mere fact of such a divergence of view emphasizes the usefulness of this discussion—and, indeed, of further discussion—of this very important topic.

On Thursday, December 28, Section C met with the American Chemical Society and the Society of Chemical Industry at the College of the City of New York, when the following addresses were presented:

Dr. William McPherson, retiring chairman of Section C, professor of chemistry, Ohio State Uni-

<sup>1</sup> Vol. 44, p. 885, 1916.

<sup>2</sup> It will, we hope, prove feasible to have all of these papers printed together in some suitable place.

versity, "Asymmetric Syntheses and their Bearing upon the Doctrine of Vitalism."

Dr. Phoebus A. Levene, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, "The Individuality of Tissue Elements."

Dr. Hugh S. Taylor, Princeton University, "The Photo-Chemistry of the Chlorination Processes."

Dr. George F. Kunz, New York City, "Preparedness Chemistry Exhibit of the United Chemical Societies at the American Museum of Natural History."

Dr. C. G. Derick, Buffalo, "Equilibrium Constants and Chemical Structure."

Dr. S. Dushman, Schenectady, "Application of Atomic Theories in Chemistry."

Through the courtesy of the college, a complimentary luncheon was tendered to the section, which was highly appreciated. In the afternoon the following papers were read:

A Preliminary Report of the Chemical Committee of the National Research Council, by Mars-ton Taylor Bogert, chairman.

"An Increase in the Sucrose Content of Sugar Beets after their Removal from the Soil," by F. G. Wiechmann.

"Valency and Valence," by M. L. Crossley.

"Conductivity Measurements on Oxidation-Reduction Reactions," by Graham Edgar.

"Stability of Paraffin Hydrocarbons," by G. Egloff and R. J. Moore.

The following by title only:

"The Effect of Fineness of Division of Pulverized Limestone upon Various Crop Yields," by N. Kopeloff.

"A Relation between the Chemical Constitution and the Optical Rotatory Power of the Phenylhydrazides of Certain Acids of the Sugar Group," by C. S. Hudson.

"*d*-Mannoketoheptose. A New Sugar from the Avocado," by F. B. La Forge.

Section C elected new officers, as follows:

*Vice-president and Chairman of the Section:* Professor W. A. Noyes, University of Illinois.

*Secretary:* Professor James Kendall, Columbia University.

*Member of Council:* Professor M. A. Rosanoff, Pittsburgh.

*Member of General Committee:* Dr. R. F. Bacon, Pittsburgh.

*Member of Sectional Committee:* Dr. Irving Langmuir, Schenectady. JOHN JOHNSTON,

*Secretary*