

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 1921

THE DUTY OF SCIENTIFIC MEN IN CONSERVATION¹

The Duty of Scientific Men in Conservation:

DR. HENRY S. GRAVES..... 505

President Harding's Presentation Address to

Mme. Curie 509

Henry Platt Cushing: DR. JOHN M. CLARKE,

DR. C. H. SMYTH, JR., AND DR. R. RUEDE-
MANN 510

Scientific Events:—

An English Hospital for Nervous Disorders;
The Gift to Mme. Curie; Ruins in the Upper
Canadian Valley; Geological Expedition to
China; Expedition to the Upper Basin of the
Amazon 512

Scientific Notes and News..... 514

University and Educational News..... 515

Discussion and Correspondence:—

The Aurora of May 14, 1921: PROFESSOR
FREDERICK SLOCUM, PROFESSOR JOHN E.
SMITH. Russian Geologists: G. F. K., E.
T. W. 515

Scientific Books:—

McGillivray's The Coccidae: WM. A. RILEY.
Bennett on the Soils and Agriculture of the
Southern States: WM. B. COBB..... 517

Special Articles:

An Age-computing Device: DR. C. M.
KELLEY 518

Meeting of Committees on Conservation: DR.

ALBERT L. BARROWS 521

The Western Society of Naturalists: F. J.

SMILEY 522

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to The Editor of Science, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE conservation movement of a few years ago crystallized and brought to public attention a great principle, one so far reaching that its real significance and scope are even to-day not generally grasped. Regardless of how the term may be defined, the problem of conservation involves the whole question of the relation of our natural resources to the economic life and upbuilding of the country. We have to do not merely with the prevention of waste and economical use of our resources, but also with the problem of how these resources may render their highest service in building up local communities, maintaining our industries, and contributing to a strong civilization.

We can point to considerable progress in certain features of conservation during the past decade. Scientific men have conducted research of great value that already is resulting in new uses of various raw materials, in more economical methods of handling them, and in improved methods of perpetuating those resources which are renewable; engineers are giving more attention than formerly to the problem of preventing unnecessary losses in the exploitation of raw resources; the more far-sighted leaders of industry have an increasing appreciation of the relation of natural resources to the permanence of their own enterprises. And yet, the conservation principle is making slow headway, when viewed from the larger aspects of the economic needs of the country. The loss through unnecessary waste is still appalling, uneconomic methods in the use and development of various

¹ This paper was presented at a joint meeting on April 9, of three Committees on Conservation, representing the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.