

lap, of the American Psychological Association, I am offering to receive and be responsible for contributions. The fund will be used for continuing Dr. Lipmann in his chosen work. Quick response promises to prevent the loss of an international leader from the field of scientific research.

Dr. Lipmann's assistance in founding and editing the *Zeitschrift für angewandte Psychologie* and its *Beihefte*; his important contributions to educational and vocational psychology, 34 titles in one recent bibliography in applied psychology; and the prospect of his many years of continued work, should rouse us out of our routine contributions. There is hope of state support for his work if he can be helped past the present depression. A recent letter makes clear that the need is pressing if he is to keep to his calling.

J. B. MINER

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

SHIPMENT OF AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE TO RUSSIA

THE American Committee to Aid Russian Scientists with Scientific Literature was informed by the Headquarters of the American Relief Administration in New York that the first shipment of eleven cases, each weighing about 350 lbs., is being forwarded on the S. S. Norlina, scheduled to sail about August 15th.

The response of American scientific institutions and departments to the appeal of the Committee was remarkably generous. In handling these first shipments the American Relief Administration had considerable difficulty in following the original plan, chiefly due to the fact that many of the donors failed to prepay the charges to New York and to send advices and lists of their publications, making it necessary for the American Relief Administration in New York to make up lists from the books and pamphlets as the packages were opened. The Committee would greatly appreciate it if the donors of scientific literature for Russia would in the future enclose at least six copies of the list of publications contributed by them. This number of copies is absolutely essential in order to furnish the offices of the American Relief Administration abroad with copies of the packing

lists, one to be enclosed in each case, one sent to the American Committee in Washington, still another retained in the files in New York. One copy with a special column provided on it is to be sent to Moscow and later returned to the American Committee with the record of the disposition made of each package of literature sent. All future shipments should be consigned *care Gertzen & Co., 70 West Street, New York, N. Y.*

The literature contributed by donors for delivery to specific institutions or individuals was packed without being opened and the Committee in Moscow was requested to make delivery to the person or persons designated on the package. The copy of the inventory, when it is returned from Moscow, should therefore indicate the extent to which it was practicable and consistent with our agreements to comply with the wishes of the donors.

RAPHAEL ZON,
Secretary

QUOTATIONS

CHILDREN AND MUSEUMS

THE direct educational work accomplished by museums in the United States is a perpetual source of shame to us in this country. We are well aware that much is being done in some of our own museums, often at the self-sacrifice of their officials; but have we anything to compare with what is described in a recent number of *Natural History* (March-April, 1922)—the journal of the American Museum of Natural History? Consider lantern-slides, for example. Our own Natural History Museum has recently started one or two loan collections, comprising in all some few dozen slides. Those of the American Museum number many thousands. They are stored in a room accessible to teachers, who can thus select precisely what they want for their class-room lectures. Last year more than two hundred thousand slides were circulated. It is not long since a fair collection of slides made by an assistant in our own museum was handed over to another institution because there were no facilities for keeping it in the museum itself. Needless to say, the American Museum has a lecture theater. It has 869 nature-study collec-

tions to be lent to any public school in greater New York. There are two motor cars and a motor cycle to deliver slides and collections. Each messenger visits from twenty to forty schools a day. The American Museum is about to erect a special School Service building of five stories where from three to five thousand children daily may be taken care of properly. The blind are also provided for.

Of course, all this can not be done by the ordinary officers of the museum, and that is a fact which must be recognized in this country. The American Museum has its own department of education, with Mr. George H. Sherwood at the head. In the same way the Brooklyn Botanical Garden has its curator of elementary education, who contributes to the same issue of *Natural History* an interesting article on "Gardening and the City Child." But the work which starts in the museums and public gardens of New York and Brooklyn is taken up by other outside bodies, as the School Nature League of New York City, the president of which, Mrs. John I. Northrop, here tells us how in one of the elementary schools in the middle of the slums a wonderful nature-room has been installed. It is visited by from eight hundred to one thousand children every week. Here is a place for all those miscellaneous curiosities so frequently rejected by the staid museums. They can be placed in the hands of the children and many a fascinating lesson drawn from them. The love of nature thus begun is carried out into the open by means of summer camps, and so becomes linked up with the Boy Scout camps with their traveling museums.

Well, why is it that the Americans have got so far ahead of us on these lines? They have no doubt a new field to cultivate, and they do not have to contend against the terrible weight of inertia inevitable to some of our royal and ancient establishments. But to a large extent it is because Americans are not ashamed of having an ideal and of talking about it. They do not mind saying what they are going to do, and they make the utmost of everything that they have done. This is not the Englishman's way, but it is a way that interests the public

both rich and poor. It brings money from the former and enthusiasm from the latter. If we want to achieve the same results we must not be above following somewhat similar methods. Here, during the summer holidays, are the children crowding our museums at South Kensington day after day. Can not something more be done for them, even if we shed a little dignity in the process?—*Nature*.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

The Coccidæ of Ceylon. By E. ERNEST GREEN. London: Dulau and Co., 1896-1922. Pp. xli plus 472; 209 plates.

Part I of "The Coccidæ of Ceylon" appeared in 1896, Part II in 1899, Part III in 1904, Part IV in 1909, and with the appearance of Part V there is completed a work that is worthy of a place among the classics of entomology.

The Coccidæ or scale insects are a group of almost unsurpassed economic importance. There is probably no horticulturist who is not familiar with at least a few of the species and whose pocketbook is not the lighter as a result of their activities. The cost of repressing them is a constant tax upon the horticultural industries everywhere, a part, in effect, of the overhead expense of producing horticultural products. And the ease with which they are transmitted from one part of the world to another has resulted in the practically cosmopolitan distribution of many of the most harmful species together with the frequent introduction into new regions of others.

So it is that the scale insects stand in need of the most careful systematic study. But the minute size of many of the species, the difficulty of obtaining adequate microscopic preparations, and the obscurity of the structures available for classification have always stood in the way of such study. Unfortunately these difficulties have been only too completely reflected in the quality of the systematic work that has been done upon the family. The systematic work upon this group is in general of by no means very satisfactory character and is in large part sadly deficient. Yet to this generalization "The Coccidæ of Ceylon" is a most