

one filled with sea sand, and the fragments great and small of others inside the whole shells which stand gaping open; nor the claws of crabs without the rest of their bodies; nor with the shells of other species fastened on to them, like animals on the outside where it has eaten its way like a worm in wood; nor would there be found among them bones and teeth of fish which some call arrows, other serpents' tongues; nor would so many parts of different animals be found joined together, unless they had been thrown up there upon the borders of the sea.

And the Flood could not have carried them there, because things which are heavier than water do not float high in the water, and the aforesaid things could not be at such heights unless they had been carried there floating on the waves, and that is impossible on account of their weight.

Where the valleys have never been covered by the salt waters of the sea, there the shells are never found.

Such things are far more ancient than letters, it is not to be wondered at if in our days there exists no record of how the aforesaid seas extended over so many countries; and if moreover such record ever existed, the wars, the conflagrations, the deluges of waters, the changes in speech and habits have destroyed every vestige of the past. But sufficient for us is the testimony of things produced in the salt waters and now found again in the high mountains far from the seas.

*Apostrophe to a Huge Fossil Fish, Sword Fish  
or Tunny*

O powerful and once living instrument of constructive nature, thy strength not availing thee, thou must needs abandon thy tranquil life to obey the law which God and time ordained for all procreative nature! To thee availed not the branching, sturdy, dorsal fins wherewith pursuing thy prey thou wert wont to plough thy way, tempestuously tearing open the briny waves with thy breast.

O how many times the frightened shoals of dolphins and big tunny fish were seen to flee before thy insensate fury; and thou, lashing with swift, branching fins and forked tail, didst create in the sea mist and sudden tempest, with loud uproar and foundering of ships; with

mighty wave thou didst heap up the open shores with the frightened and terrified fishes, which thus escaping from thee were left high and dry when the sea abandoned them, and became the plenteous and abundant spoil of the neighboring peoples.

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O time, swift despoiler of created things! How many kings, how many people hast thou brought low! How many changes of state and circumstances have followed since the wondrous form of this fish died here in this hollow, winding recess? Now destroyed by time patiently thou liest within this narrow space, and with thy bones despoiled and bare are become an armour and support to the mountain which lies above thee.

O how many times hast thou been seen amid the waves of the mighty, swelling ocean, towering like a mountain, conquering and overcoming them! And with black finned back ploughing through the salt waves with proud and stately bearing!

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### OXFORD MEMORIAL TO SIR WILLIAM OSLER

At the final meeting of the subscribers to the Oxford Osler Memorial Fund held at the University Museum, Oxford, Sir Herbert Warren, president of Magdalen College, chairman of the executive committee, explained in a brief introduction that the Oxford Memorial was only one of several, the United States of America and Canada, in which Sir William had spent a larger part of his life, having decided to establish memorials of their own.

The secretary, Dr. J. A. Gunn, stated that the fund now amounted to just short of £2,000. The following proposals were submitted on behalf of the executive committee:

(1) The purchase of a bronze plaque of Sir William Osler, measuring 32 by 22 inches, a copy of that by Vernon of Paris, made for the Medical Faculty of Maryland, to be hung in the university museum; (2) the establishment of a fund for the foundation of an Osler Memorial Medal in bronze, to be awarded every five years to a graduate of the University of Oxford who has made some distinguished contribution to medical science, learn-

ing or practice. This medal might be a reduced replica of the portrait plaque; (3) the remainder of the sum, together with any sums hereinafter added, to be called the "Osler Traveling Fund," for the propagation or acquisition of medical knowledge or for medical research, to be invested and the interest utilized to assist teachers of the medical faculty to travel for the purposes stated. It is estimated that the capital sum remaining for this purpose will be about £1,700.

Sir Archibald Garrod, regius professor of medicine, in introducing these proposals, stated that they had the entire approval of Lady Osler, as well as of other friends from whom letters had been received. They were supported by Surgeon-Major-General Sir Frederick Bradshaw and adopted *nem. con.* and the executive committee, which consists of Sir Herbert Warren, Sir Archibald Garrod, Sir Charles Sherrington, Professor Arthur Thomson, Mr. A. P. Dodds Parker, honorable treasurer, and Professor J. A. Gunn, honorable secretary, were empowered to take steps to carry them into effect, and, in particular, to negotiate any arrangements with the university which may be found desirable.

#### THE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE ON PHOTOSYNTHESIS

THE Committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science on Photosynthesis which was authorized at the Boston meeting following the notable symposium on this subject has recently completed its organization by the acceptance of the following persons as members:

Dr. C. G. Abbot, assistant secretary Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. F. G. Cottrell, director Fixed Nitrogen, Research Laboratory, Washington.

Dr. Moses Gomberg, Department of Chemistry, University of Michigan.

Dr. W. J. Humphreys, meteorological physicist, United States Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Dr. D. T. MacDougal, director Department of Botanical Research, Carnegie Institution of Washington, *chairman*.

Dr. S. E. Sheppard, in charge of Department of Physical Chemistry, Research Laboratory, Eastman Kodak Company, *secretary*, Rochester, N. Y.

Dr. E. E. Slosson, director of Science Service, Washington.

Dr. H. A. Spoehr, member, Department Botanical Research, Carnegie Institution of Washington.

The preliminary activities of the committee will be directed chiefly to bringing together information as to current researches being carried on in various laboratories, and to serve as a focus of interest in the subject. Arrangements are being made for some special lectures on the subject. Attention will be given to the matter of obtaining funds and facilities in the furtherance of research on various phases of the subject.

#### EXPEDITION TO THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

THE Bureau of Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Bishop Museum of Honolulu, began on April 4 a comprehensive scientific survey of the islands of the Hawaiian archipelago, from Niuhau to Midway and Wake.

The objects of this expedition are two fold: first, to make a much needed survey of the Hawaiian Island bird reservations to ascertain the situation as to the bird life of these great breeding places for sea-fowl, and, second, to take advantage of the opportunity to make a comprehensive scientific survey of the islands visited. This last will make a contribution to the general survey of the islands of the Pacific, now being promoted by the Bishop Museum. The National Research Council, in furtherance of its policy to promote the investigation of the resources of the Pacific, has made a grant of funds to assist the expedition.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, is in charge of the expedition, and took with him as field assistant Charles E. Reno, of the same bureau. The expedition, in addition, is made up of a corps of scientists from the Bishop Museum, led by the director, Dr. Herbert E. Gregory. These include S. C. Ball, curator of biology; D. T. Fullaway, entomologist; E. L. Caum, botanist; D. Thaanum, conchologist; C. Grant, general assistant, and J. W. Thompson, preparator. Mr. Donald R. Dickey, of Pasadena, California, accompanies the expedition as photographer, to secure motion pictures of the noteworthy colonies of sea birds found on Laysan Island.