

across was the dominant size, with apparently few less than one half inch in diameter.

Much of the hail was of peculiar form as well as of uncommon size. The smaller stones were spherical to subspherical, and had a frosted appearance. Some were markedly discoidal with a frosted nucleus surrounded by relatively clear ice. This nucleus exhibited clearly in many specimens concentric layers of clear and frosted ice surrounding a more or less frosted core. This type of hail attained a maximum diameter of one inch or slightly more. The larger stones had a different form, characterized by fantastic outlines and unequal diameters. Many had the appearance of a mass of small pieces of hard candy that had stuck firmly together. Others resembled a group of blunt crystals studding a portion of the wall of a geode. Still others consisted of an irregular solid mass with more or less cylindrical, bluntly spinose projections up to one half inch long and one eighth inch thick.

These bizarre large hail appeared to have resulted from several small stones becoming frozen together during their formation and descent, with the interstices perhaps filled with added ice. The rounded outlines of some of the individual stones could be observed, and were brought into relief through melting. The spinose projections on the masses of aggregated stones are inexplicable by the writer, for they showed no trace of a composite nature, but appeared to have formed as distinct homogeneous projections.

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THE NEW YORK STATE FORESTS

IN SCIENCE for November 2, 1923, resolutions passed by the executive board of the American Engineering Council advocating abolishing the constitutional protection of the New York state forests were printed.

The citizens of that state have invariably voted down that proposal in whatever form it has been presented, and recently they did so again by a decisive majority. This is not because any intelligent person is opposed to scientific forestry or the proper use of the power resources of that region. It is because there exists no machinery in the state government to insure the continued application of any system of real forestry to those lands if they are opened up to commercial exploitation, and because the laws and the constitution do not appear to provide any safe and reliable means for establishing any. The forests would be in charge of officials whose term of service would be likely to end after the next election, and if a good administration saved any of the forest, it would only be for the bad one following to make away with.

That until the problem of the continued proper administration of those forests is solved, any breaking down of their present constitutional protection means their destruction is a fact so self-evident as to require no discussion. The resolutions ignore this completely.

People familiar with the Adirondack and Catskill regions will be curious to learn where the "great volume of ripened timber" that is stated to be decaying away is located.

The increasing practice of securing the indorsement of prominent scientific and professional organizations for schemes and proposals without the members having knowledge or understanding of the things they are represented as approving is an evil that can not fail to affect adversely not only the organizations, but the public's respect for scientific opinion.

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THE PROFESSOR AND HIS WAGES

WHILE in other circumstances I might hesitate to trespass on your columns to the exclusion of more important matter than controversy, self-defense is an excuse which makes even trespass lawful. It is a pity that Mr. Welsh read my letter with so little attention before he started to answer it, and rebuke me for "theorizing without that judgment and knowledge of 'how much' that only experience in the field dealt with teaches."

Item, he accuses me of overestimating the rewards of the business man in my little table of comparison with the professor: "The profits assumed for the merchant are much beyond the average." Quite so! If Mr. Welsh will reread my letter he will find the words "Admitting that not all merchants are as successful as Mr. Smith . . ." I specifically stated that I was comparing two unusually successful and competent men, one in business, the other in teaching. If Mr. Welsh supposes that the *average* college professor gets \$4,000 a year, or that the average teacher ever obtains a professorship in any large institution, he will find little confirmation in the various studies of university, college and secondary school conditions made by the Rockefeller and Carnegie Foundations.

Item, he accuses me of dismissing "quite lightly" the risk of capital in business, a point on which I laid particular stress: "The rewards of the entrepreneur are and should be higher than those of the salaried man because his risks are greater. . . ."

Item, Mr. Welsh justifies the higher incomes of businessmen on the ground that they are a selected class and the "average professor should not be compared with the successful businessman but rather with the latter's employees." Which reminds me strongly of my own statement that "we need not assume that the average instructor or professor is as