

Where was this factory, and who was the manager? It was the United States Government or any large museum or university in the land! Here is some recent evidence:

"I have two important papers that probably will not see the light for a year or more. Sooner or later we will have to come to the rationing method and apportion to each department so many pages per year."—Letter from one of the most distinguished workers in a large museum, December, 1924.

The United States Printing Office can not or does not nearly meet the requirements of the U. S. National Museum. It is true that the actual printed output is large, but it is not nearly what it would be if all the work done, or capable of being done, were fully utilized.

The *Nautilus*, the American journal dealing with the Mollusca, reporting in the main work done by the National Museum, Philadelphia Academy, etc., has to be subsidized out of the pockets of the editors, and will have to suspend if the support given to it is not increased. (England supports two such journals.)

There is a much older and more famous American scientific journal which is heavily subsidized by the editor, but I am not at liberty to cite the name.

Entomological News, another leading scientific journal, is finding it impossible to continue on the present basis.

Writers of monographs have to split them up and publish the fragments, in order to get any publication at all.

Museums contain valuable materials which are not studied because the results could not be published.

All this is happening in the richest country in the world. Why? Because men of science do not see things in a large way, and do not stand together. Because many, who should be supporting science and education, are absorbed in the pursuit of wealth. Because the results of scientific work have not been presented in a sufficiently intelligible way, and this is partly due to the condensation necessary on account of the conditions described. Democracy can not succeed without publicity, and no one knows what might be done if men of science would unite in the effort to place their goods on the markets of the world. As it is, the hungry public, deprived of the bread of life, tries to find nourishment in cross-word puzzles.

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ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

FROM Professor Henry B. Ward has been received the following justly pointed note: "In the issue of

SCIENCE for February 6 I find a list of the Association Council with a supposed record of attendance at the council meetings in Washington. I am reported as having been present at one meeting only, whereas I was present at all meetings and was late at one meeting only. I should not call attention to this matter and request the correction of the record if it were not that the comments in connection with the roll so directly criticize the absentees that I am unwilling to have the error in this case stand uncorrected."

It is unfortunate indeed that such an error as this should have occurred with reference to a council member whose record of attendance and active interest is so uniformly high as is that of Professor Ward. It is of course impossible to explain or excuse the falsification, which has, however, now been corrected in the official records of the permanent secretary's office. Experience demonstrates that the securing of an attendance record for the council meetings is, under the circumstances, not nearly so easy of accomplishment as might be supposed, and when errors do occur it is very fine indeed to have them promptly reported, as in the present instance. The method employed in securing these supposed records of attendance will be still further improved for future meetings and there is hope that errors therein may ultimately be wholly prevented. Errors should be reported to the secretary of the council.

Adverse criticism of absence from the council sessions (see pages 131 and 132 of SCIENCE for February 6) is generally just, and that there should be necessity for such criticism is naturally greatly regretted by the members of the association. The permanent secretary has been more than once instructed by the executive committee of the council to emphasize strongly the great desirability of full attendance at the council sessions. The affairs of the association are always greatly in need of the active interest of all council members.

We are very thankful to Professor Ward for his cooperation.

SAM F. TRELEASE,
Secretary of the Council
BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,
Permanent Secretary.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Studies in Human Biology. BY RAYMOND PEARL.
Baltimore, Md., Williams and Wilkins Co., 1924,
653 pp.

DR. PEARL's volume, "Studies in Human Biology," consists of a collection of articles which are in most