

and increasing the productivity of waters. This aspect of the committee's task is to be viewed in a broad way. Undoubtedly it is desirable that there should be experimental work of a relatively direct nature, but strictly scientific in method, in reference to such matters as the nutrition of fishes and selective breeding. It is also probable that no less important in the long run will be physiological physico-chemical and other studies not utilitarian in viewpoint but still having to do with problems underlying the *biological productivity* of bodies of water.

The committee fully realizes that the successful accomplishment of its task is conditioned upon the assistance of all who have an interest in the matter. It can report fully and wisely only if it has advice, suggestions, criticism and especially information from institutions and persons having a direct or indirect concern in the kinds of work that come within its purview.

This statement is intended to invite the submission of advice and information. Communications may be addressed to the Division of Biology and Agriculture, National Research Council, Washington, D. C., or to Professor R. E. Coker (Box 950, Chapel Hill, N. C.), who has been requested by Professor Metcalf to serve as acting chairman of the committee, pending his return from foreign travel.

*The Committee:*

MAYNARD M. METCALF,  
*Johns Hopkins, Chairman;*  
R. A. HARPER,

*Columbia University;*  
STEPHEN A. FORBES,  
*Illinois Natural History Survey;*

CHANCEY JUDAY,  
*Wisconsin Geological and  
Natural History Survey;*  
E. N. TRANSEAU,

*Ohio State University;*  
S. W. BEYER,

*Iowa State College;*  
R. E. COKER,

*Acting Chairman, University of  
North Carolina, Chairman, Division  
of Biology and Agriculture, ex officio*

#### RADIO TALKS FROM THE HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY

DR. HARLOW SHAPLEY, director of the Harvard College Observatory and professor of astronomy at Harvard University, gave on November 2 the first of a series of twenty-two radio talks on astronomy to be given by members of the Harvard Observatory on Tuesdays and Thursdays and broadcast by station WEEL. Dr. Shapley's subject was "What are the stars?"

The other talks have been scheduled as follows:

- November 5—*Bright stars and constellations*, DR. WILLIAM LUYTEN.  
 " 10—*Telescopes and their uses*, PROFESSOR WILLARD P. GERRISH.  
 " 12—*Photographing stars and planets*, PROFESSOR EDWARD S. KING.  
 " 17—*Great American observatories*, LEON CAMPBELL.  
 " 19—*The origin of the earth and other planets*, DR. SHAPLEY.  
 " 24—*Eclipses of sun, moon and stars*, MR. CAMPBELL.  
 " 26—*Comets*, PROFESSOR KING.  
 December 1—*Shooting stars*, DR. WILLARD J. FISHER.  
 " 3—*The age of the earth*, DR. SHAPLEY.  
 " 8—*The stuff stars are made of*, DR. CECILIA H. PAYNE.  
 " 10—*Classifying the stars*, DR. ANNIE J. CANNON.  
 " 15—*Stellar evolution*, DR. PAYNE.  
 " 17—*The number and sizes of the stars*, DR. LUYTEN.  
 " 22—*Star clusters and nebulae*, PROFESSOR SOLON I. BAILEY.  
 " 29—*The Milky Way*, PROFESSOR BAILEY.  
 " 31—*Measuring the universe*, DR. SHAPLEY.  
 January 5—*Beyond the Milky Way*, DR. LUYTEN.  
 " 7—*The amateur's work in astronomy*, MR. CAMPBELL.  
 " 12—*New stars and variables*, DR. CANNON.  
 " 14—*Relativity*, PROFESSOR KING.  
 " 19—*Life in other worlds*, DR. SHAPLEY.

#### GEOLOGICAL EXCURSION OF NEW YORK STATE COLLEGES

THE first intercollegiate geological field meeting of New York state colleges was held at Clinton and Little Falls, N. Y., on May 15 and 16 last. The various delegations of teachers and students met at Clinton during the forenoon of Friday, May 15, and were guests at luncheon of Hamilton College. The afternoon was spent in a visit to the iron mines in the Clinton formation and in examining the Silurian section in the neighborhood. A dinner was held in the evening at the house of the country club near Utica. President F. C. Ferry, of Hamilton College, made a brief address of welcome, and Professor A. P. Brigham, of Colgate University, delivered a lecture on the geography and historical significance of the Mohawk gorge at Little Falls. Dr. N. C. Dale, of Hamilton College, spoke briefly about Paleozoic rocks and Dr. H. L. Alling, of the University of Rochester, discussed Adirondack pre-Cambrian problems.

On Saturday the party journeyed to Little Falls where the day was spent. The structural features studied were the various pre-Cambrian intrusives, the great unconformity, the fault bounding the gorge on