

session with the agronomists; on Friday the two societies had separate meetings, Friday morning's session of the plant physiologists was devoted to demonstrations and the reading of papers on various phases of plant physiological work. The subjects considered were, the production and measurement of light, including polarized light, and fluorescence and phosphorescence, winter hardiness in alfalfa varieties and in apple varieties, methods and apparatus for measuring freezing points and killing points, methods of construction of thermocouples and their use in temperature measurements, use of ethylene in breaking the rest period, tracheal contents of the apple tree and the preservation of fruits and vegetables in their natural color. There were forty-five plant physiologists present at this meeting and much interest was manifested in the program.

Friday afternoon was devoted to an inspection tour. The Linnaean library and the new botany building under construction on the university campus at Minneapolis were visited. Trips were also made through the Washburn Crosby Flour Mills and the banana plant of the E. P. Stacy Co. Friday evening all were entertained by Dr. and Mrs. R. B. Harvey at a picnic dinner on the banks of the St. Croix river twenty-five miles from St. Paul. It was a very pleasant social occasion.

The newly elected officers for the year 1926-27 are, *President*, Dr. Francis E. Lloyd, McGill University; *Vice-president*, Dr. Wright A. Gardner, Auburn Polytechnic Institute; *Secretary-treasurer*, Dr. S. V. Eaton, University of Chicago.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FLOWER AND FRUIT STERILITY

THIS conference is being held in New York City during the present week under the auspices and with the financial support of the Horticultural Society of New York. The organization of the conference has been in the charge of an executive committee consisting of Dr. N. L. Britton, *chairman*, Mr. Frederic Newbold, *treasurer*, and Dr. A. B. Stout, *secretary*, and a local advisory committee consisting of Professor R. A. Harper and Professor H. M. Richards, of Columbia University; Dr. C. Stuart Gager, director of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden; Dr. William Crocker, director of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, and Mr. Leonard Barron, editor of *Garden and Home Builder*. Various persons both in America and abroad have rendered valuable assistance in the development of the program.

The conference convened at Columbia University in the auditorium of Schermerhorn Hall, on Thursday morning after an opening address by Dr. N. L. Britton, and an address of welcome by T. A. Have-

meyer, president of the Horticultural Society of New York. A program of nine papers was presented. At the close of this session motor busses were provided for the trip to the New York Botanical Garden where lunch was served and a scientific program presented. Afterwards there was opportunity for inspection of the garden.

The sessions of Friday were held at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Yonkers. A smoker with informal discussion was held in the evening. The conference held its sessions on Saturday at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

The foreign men of science announced to take part in the conference were: Fred J. Chittenden, director of the Royal Horticultural Society Garden, England; M. B. Crane, The John Innes Horticultural Institution, England; Dr. Kathleen B. Blackburn and Dr. J. W. Heslop Harrison, Armstrong College, University of Durham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, England; Dr. F. Gagnepain, Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; Professor Ernst Lehmann, University of Tübingen, Germany; Dr. M. J. Sirks, Institut voor Plantenverdeling, Wageningen, Holland; Dr. W. E. de Mol, Lisse, Holland; Erling Kvaale, Norway, Dr. Rudolph Florin, Royal Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm, Sweden; Professor F. Kotowski, College of Agriculture, Warsaw, Poland; Professor W. Paschkevitch, presented by Professor N. Maxomow, Institute of Applied Botany, Leningrad, Russia; Professor Torasaburo Susa, Hokkaido Imperial University, Sapporo, Japan, and Professor Akio Kikuchi, Tottori Agricultural College, Japan.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

M. PAUL LANGEVIN, professor of physics at the Collège de France, has been elected president of the French Association for the Advancement of Science.

THE fifth William Thompson Sedgwick Memorial Lecture was given this year at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass., by Professor Thomas Hunt Morgan, of Columbia University, whose subject was "Genetics and the Physiology of Development." The lectureship was established in 1922. Earlier lecturers have included Dr. Edmund B. Wilson, of Columbia University; Dr. William H. Welch, of the Johns Hopkins University; Dr. W. J. V. Osterhout, formerly of Harvard and now of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, and Dr. Charles V. Chapin, superintendent of health, Providence, R. I.

THE medal of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers was awarded to Dr. Robert Andrews