ances as another "kind" and so on. But no two people will agree exactly in their estimates of resemblances and differences. The groups are mental concepts, not realities. When one stops to consider the matter well, the astonishing circumstance about living things is not their diversity of form, protean as this may be, but the unity in the performance of a few common actions throughout this infinite variety of form. These functional characteristics are ever present and always observable—they are indisputable and convincing evidences of the common tie which binds all living things together—their operation, so precariously dependent upon a few, strictly limited physical conditions upon the earth, throws the fate of all into one balance. On the other hand, the continuity of form is not to be observed with any fullness. By far the greater number of "kinds" of plants and animals are extinct and of these only a few are known. Of the living, new ones are constantly being found. Our knowledge of the range and continuity of form must always be fragmentary. Form, indeed, is, in its nature, a matter of discontinuity; but function is continuous, always observable and susceptible of quantitative measurement. There is no escape from the conclusion that every living thing is kin by nature of its vital activities with all other living things. The unity of life is a reality. This is the important thing in all our thinking. We will always strive for fuller knowledge of the relations in time of the many forms under which life presents itself, but we do this in the realization that we can never know in full detail the whole story. It is beyond the compass of human experience.

C. E. McCLUNG

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION THE ANNUAL PRIZE AWARDED BY

IT was at the Cincinnati meeting, in January, 1924, that the first of its annual prizes was awarded by the American Association. Since that time two other prizes have been awarded, one at the Washington meeting, in January, 1925, and the other at the Kansas City meeting, last January, and the fourth prize in the series will be awarded at the approaching Philadelphia meeting in convocation week. The three awards thus far made are as follows:

1. To Dr. L. E. Dickson: Researches on algebras and their arithmetics.

2a. To Dr. Edwin P. Hubble: Researches on cepheids in spiral nebulae.

2b. To Dr. L. R. Cleveland: Researches on protozoan parasites of termites.

3. To Dr. Dayton C. Miller: Researches on the ether-drift experiment.

The sum of $6,000 was given to the Association, by a member who wishes his name withheld, to be awarded in six annual prizes of $1,000 each. Three future prizes are at present cared for. The second award was divided equally between two prizemen, as shown above, but future awards will not be divided. The award is made at the end of the annual meeting, to the author of some noteworthy contribution to science, presented in the program of the meeting. There is no competition in the usual sense. Because contributions in different fields of science are generally not commensurable, it is not intended that the prize paper is to be necessarily the best of the meeting. It is to be one of the very good ones. Membership in the association is not considered in awarding the prize and the programs of all the organizations that meet with the association at the annual meeting are considered, as well as those of the association itself. This feature of the meeting greatly increases interest and enthusiasm and it has clearly demonstrated the wisdom as well as the generosity of the donor.

The award is made by the committee on prize award, named by the council or by its executive committee. This year the membership of the committee on award is as follows:

C. E. Seashore, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, *chairman.*

Otis W. Caldwell, Lincoln School, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

C. B. Davenport, Station for Experimental Evolution, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y.

Lauder W. Jones, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

C. F. Marbut, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Soils, Washington, D. C.

Nominations for consideration by the committee on award are received during the meeting, from secretaries of sections and secretaries of societies meeting with the association. From these nominations and from additional ones that may be made by members of the committee itself, the committee on award elects the prizeman for the meeting.

BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,
Permanent Secretary

CURTIS GATES LLOYD

ON the morning of November 11, Curtis G. Lloyd died at Bethesda Hospital in Cincinnati at the age of 67. During a lifetime that was largely devoted to scientific work he built up in Cincinnati a great mycological museum. It would be impossible to give an accurate estimate of its extent. More than fifteen years ago he printed the statement that there were then ten times more Gasteromycetes in his museum