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

than in all other museums combined. The museum contains many thousands of specimens, carefully preserved, mainly of the type of fungi that make good museum specimens. He did not solicit the fleshy fungi, preferring to confine his studies to those which were not so materially altered by drying. Specimens came to him from all parts of the world, perhaps fewer from Europe than from other foreign countries.

Together with his brothers, John Uri Lloyd and Nelson Ashley Lloyd, he founded the Lloyd Library in Cincinnati. This library contains more than 52,000 volumes, and is foremost in works on materia medica and mycology. Of the 26 bulletins of the Lloyd Library, six were mycological and his own. The other bulletins were works of reproductions of rare prints, the pharmacy series and the entomological series. Mr. Lloyd's own special publication was titled *Mycological Notes*. Of this he issued 75 numbers, the last issue being of the whole series 75, of Vol. 7, No. 10. In addition to this he published special monographs, numerous letters and circulars.

The University of Cincinnati last June conferred upon him the honorary degree of doctor of science.

Dr. Lloyd was of unique personality. He was thoroughly devoted to his chosen field of science. He was unsparing of his own labor, independent in his methods, and intolerant of sham. He was impatient with all the time-wasting devices of the priority hunters, because he deemed them a hindrance to science. He deprecated "species-grinding"; but he travelled the world over visiting the museums and the collecting grounds in many lands in order to know species thoroughly. In spite of the prevalent rules to the contrary, the names of describers of species were not appended to scientific names in his publications. He believed with Darwin that this sort of cheap notoriety places a premium of slip-shod and hasty descriptive work, and he would have none of it. Probably the world at large will tire of it soon.

Dr. Lloyd was a real promoter of conservation. While many others talked wild-life preserves, he quietly brought them into existence: first, a fine area of virgin forest near his boyhood home at Crittenden, Ky., which he filled with wild flowers. Then three of the choicest bits of nature near to Cornell University: one an area of cold, upland bogs near McLean; another a wild flower preserve in a woodland near Slaterville Springs; and the third a region of potholes in beech woods at Ringwood Hollow. All these he placed in the permanent keeping of a board of trustees for the benefit of the public.

Dr. Lloyd was a man of great personal kindliness. The Cincinnati *Enquirer* says of him:

> He never married, but was a great lover of children, and every Christmas piled stacks of toys and gifts in the Lloyd Library and distributed them to poor children whose names he obtained from the Salvation Army. He also built a Community House for the folk of his native village.

J. G. NEEDHAM

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE OF MUSEUMS AT GENEVA

AN International Office of Museums is being organized at Geneva as a sequel to action taken last summer by the International Committee on Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations. According to *Museum News* this new office will undertake to form ties of understanding and mutual helpfulness between museums throughout the world.

The task of organization is in the hands of the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation, the committee's working agency which is financed by the League of Nations, but the Office of Museums is to be an independent body which will find its own resources and develop its own program.

The office was projected last spring. In the course of a month the institute had canvassed the museums of Europe and had secured some three hundred approvals of the general plan. The American Association of Museums gave its adhesion through Dr. Vernon Kellogg, permanent secretary of the National Research Council, and chairman of the American section of the committee. The various memoranda were brought before a Sub-Committee on Arts and Letters, which body offered the following resolution:

> The sub-committee notes with satisfaction the numerous adhesions which have reached the institute to the scheme for the establishment of an International Office of Museums. It believes that the time has come to decide upon the institution of this office and to indicate as follows the duties which it might be instructed to perform:
>
> (a) To encourage between the museums, either by districts or on a national or international basis, relations of mutual acquaintance and assistance, and for this purpose to establish gradually a concise catalog of the museums of the world, to encourage the establishment of national lists and eventually of an international list;
>
> (b) To encourage gifts and loans to museums from individuals;
>
> (c) To make known the important provisional committee of an international character, composed of fifteen members at most, dealing in particular with associations of friends of museums.
>
> In order to relieve the institute of anything which might involve a financial responsibility, an endeavor should be made to create an autonomous association which would assume responsibility for expenditure and receipts.
>
> The sub-committee instructs MM. Destrée, Focillon,