

enable the journal to address itself to a wider reading public, it is earnestly hoped that American foresters, ecologists, pathologists, entomologists and research workers in other branches of biological science will give the publication their hearty support.

The editor-in-chief is Professor Henrik Hesselman, in charge of the natural science division of the Swedish Institute of Experimental Forestry (Statens Skogsförsöksanstalt), and was chairman of the section on forest soils at the International Congress of Soil Sciences at Washington in 1927. The assistant editor is Erik Lundh, secretary of the Swedish Forestry Society and docent at the Forest School.

The journal will be published in four large parts each year, two before and two after the summer. Owing to the fact that the reports of the experiment station (Meddelanden från Statens Skogsförsöksanstalt) are published by the society, arrangement can be made to have them accompany the journal as supplements. Both publications are printed in large, readable type on heavy glazed paper, and are profusely illustrated with many clear illustrations, graphs, tables, etc. Colored plates are frequently included. The journal thus offers a very attractive medium for publication, and it is to be hoped that American investigators may be interested in submitting manuscripts. The undersigned has consented to act as American representative, and will be glad to answer inquiries regarding subscriptions and advertising, and forward material submitted for publication. A limited supply of sample copies of the last volumes of the "Tidskrift" and "Meddelanden" are available and will be sent on request to organizations and individuals interested.

HENRY I. BALDWIN

BERLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

#### STATEMENT REGARDING THE DISMISSAL OF THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER OF CHICAGO

FOLLOWING the dismissal of Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, former health commissioner of Chicago, and his replacement by Mayor Thompson's personal physician, a surgeon with no public health training, a public statement has been issued by many prominent men in public health work in the United States, protesting against the influence of politics affecting the public health and welfare of the people at large. Not only has Dr. Bundesen been eliminated from Chicago's health department, but also his principal assistants, J. C. Geiger, M.D., deputy health commissioner; Arthur E. Gorman, chief sanitary engineer, and I. S. Falk, Ph.D., director of surveys.

The statement reads:

The undersigned workers in the field of American public health desire to express an emphatic protest against the action of the Mayor of the City of Chicago in replacing Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, the health officer of that city, by a physician who, whatever his personal standing, is without apparent qualifications or experience to fit himself for the discharge of the serious duties of the office in question.

Permanence of tenure for competent health officials is an absolutely essential factor in the protection of the public against preventable disease; and the case in question seems particularly flagrant in view of the extraordinary record of Dr. Bundesen, whose brilliant services have aroused nation-wide admiration. Sacrifice of the lives of citizens of Chicago to political exploitation and personal whims is more than a local matter, since unsanitary conditions in one community may react upon an entire continent.

The action of the mayor of Chicago strikes a blow at the most fundamental principles of good government. It should meet with prompt and vigorous rebuke from all people of Chicago who care for the reputation of their city and it should stimulate citizens everywhere to see that city charters are amended so as to make such interference with good health administration impossible in their own communities.

The statement is signed by twenty-three men eminent in the field of public health including: Dr. A. C. Abbott, director, School of Hygiene and Public Health, University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Charles V. Chapin, superintendent of health, Providence; Dr. Haven Emerson, professor of public health administration, Columbia University; Dr. Livingston Farrand, president, Cornell University; Dr. Allen W. Freeman, professor of public health administration, the Johns Hopkins University; Dr. Louis I. Harris, commissioner of health, New York City; Dr. William H. Howell, director, School of Hygiene and Public Health, the Johns Hopkins University; Dr. William H. Park, director, bureau of laboratories, Department of Health, New York City; Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, president, Leland Stanford University, and Dr. C.-E. A. Winslow, professor of public health, Yale University.

#### REPORT OF THE DELEGATE OF THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA TO THE THIRD PAN-PACIFIC CONGRESS

THE following is the report of the delegate of the Botanical Society of America to the third Pan-Pacific Congress:

TO THE SECRETARY,

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

It is desired that what follows may be considered to be a brief and informal report of the delegate of the

Botanical Society of America to the Third Pan-Pacific Science Congress held at Tokyo, Japan, whose scientific formal program extended from October 30 to November 11, 1926, but whose more extended excursions began October 18 and continued until November 19. During the whole of this considerable period, the delegates participating (together with their accompanying families) were regarded as the guests of the local committees and all living and traveling expenses provided for out of funds at their disposal. Your delegate joins the other foreign delegates in feeling that no form of words is adequate for the expression of their appreciation of the wonderful hospitality of the Japanese Government and its official representatives and of the marvelous executive ability and extreme courtesy of its citizens of both high and low degree. The management of the complicated detail of the scientific, social and travel program is beyond ordinary expression of sincere and genuine praise.

The particular general achievement of the congress was the effecting of a permanent organization to perpetuate its work and continue its ideals. The "*Pacific Science Association*" came into being at the closing general session, the units being the National Research Councils, or other outstanding scientific body, of each Pacific unit of territory. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and Java was selected for the next meeting with 1929 as the year for reassembling.

The principal measures of botanical interest instituted or sanctioned by the proceedings of the congress are:

- (1) The representation of biology on the Committee for Oceanographic Research;
- (2) The inclusion of endemism and migration with reference to the insular floras (and faunas) of the Pacific Ocean;
- (3) Geological and paleontological evidence as to the shores of the Pacific in divisions of Tertiary time (this having relation to existence or non-existence of land bridges);
- (4) The botanical point of view as preeminent in the investigation of the coral reefs of the Pacific Ocean;
- (5) The resolution calling for the setting aside of localities of particular botanical interest, and
- (6) The resolution urging the Chilean Government to take measures looking towards the protection of the peculiar floral features of the Juan Fernandez Islands.

Your delegate attended a luncheon given by the Botanical Society of Tokyo to visiting botanists, delivered three papers, *viz.*—"Endemism and Migration with Particular Reference to the Floras of the Pacific Islands," "Coral Reef Problems in the Pacific and Indian Oceans" and "A Botanical Point of View of Coral Reef Theories, with Especial Relation to the Coral Reefs of the Pacific Ocean." He also proposed a resolution to institute a committee to be composed of biologists, oceanographers and geologists to outline the problems connected with the origin and growth of the coral reefs of the Pacific Ocean

and to suggest methods of investigation for their solution. This resolution was adopted by the congress.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) W. A. SETCHELL,  
Delegate

The following resolution was adopted by the society at the recent Nashville meeting.

The Botanical Society of America wishes to express, through Professor Sakurai, its deep appreciation of the unusually successful conduct of the Third Pan-Pacific Science Congress convened at Tokyo in October and November, 1926; and to thank the Imperial Japanese Government for making possible a meeting of such significance for scientific and international cooperation. It wishes also particularly to thank the Botanical Society of Tokyo, the Botanical Institutes of the Imperial University of Tokyo, and the other scientific organizations of Japan for the assistance generously extended to the American delegates and for their delightful hospitality throughout the extended period before and after the meetings of the congress, during which they traveled and studied in Japan.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. HENDRIK LORENZ, professor of mathematical physics at Leyden, died on February 25, at the age of twenty-five years.

THE Faraday medal "for notable scientific or industrial achievement in electrical engineering or for conspicuous service rendered to the advancement of electrical science" has been awarded by the Institution of Electrical Engineers, London, to J. A. Fleming, F.R.S., formerly professor of electrical engineering in the University of London.

THE council of the Geological Society has made the following awards: Wollaston Medal to Dr. D. H. Scott, lately honorary keeper of the Jodrell laboratory, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in recognition of the value of his researches in fossil botany; Murchison Medal to Dr. J. J. Sederholm, director of the Geological Commission of Finland, in recognition of his researches in petrology, especially of the granites and gneisses of the pre-Cambrian complex of Fennoscandia; a Lyell medal to Professor S. H. Reynolds, C. Wills, professor of geology in the University of Bristol, in recognition of the value of his researches in the stratigraphy of the Paleozoic rocks, and in vertebrate paleontology; a second Lyell medal to Dr. W. D. Lang, keeper of the department of geology in the British Museum, for his researches in stratigraphy and paleontology, especially with reference to the Bryozoa; the Wollaston donation fund to Mr. James Wright, for his researches on the Crinoidea of the