

present *Araucaria imbricata* forest of Argentina and Chile, testifying to extreme persistence of type. The counterpart in the northern hemisphere disappeared with the last of the dinosaurs. Two of the final well-marked species are the fine petrified cone *Araucaria hespera*, and the equally distinctive foliage type *Araucaria hatcheri* from the Ceratops beds of Wyoming and Dakota. Of the two great forests, the one yields the first clear glimpses of the Mesozoic flowering gymnosperms, the first readable evidence for the nature and place in geologic time of the course of change leading into the modern world of flowering plants; the other proves the Coniferales to be a homogeneous group, in all their later history at least.

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SAMUEL BONSALE PARISH

LIKE many other amateur naturalists before him who have done things well, Samuel B. Parish carried on his botanical explorations of the native vegetation in Southern California because of the intellectual pleasures derived from field studies and because of his love of the high mountains and the stark deserts. Upon this area, Southern California, he has published no less than sixty-three papers ranging from problems of plant geography and taxonomic detail to topographic description, local lists, studies of immigrant plants and analyses of abnormal structures.

Born at Paterson, New Jersey, on January 13, 1838, he graduated from New York University in 1858, with the degree of B.A., taught school, served four years during the Civil War, pursued prospecting and mining in the western states and finally settled as a fruit-grower in the San Bernardino Valley of Southern California in 1872. This new home was centrally located and well situated for exploration by means of a camp wagon and horses of the varied topographic and climatic areas which make up the eight counties of Southern California, an area somewhat larger than the state of Pennsylvania. Botanically the region is highly interesting but was at that time an almost unexplored land. The fruitful results of expeditions made in days or weeks of leisure brought about between Mr. Parish and Dr. C. C. Parry, formerly botanist of the Mexican Boundary Survey, an intimate friendship, and through Parry there was established what were to prove relations, prolonged and cordial, with Asa Gray, George Engelmann, Edward Lee Greene, M. S. Bebb and many others. For a period of forty-eight years Mr. Parish continued to explore this region of his choice, his last expedition, a trip to the Campo region on the Mexican border, being made when he was eighty-one years of age.

On account of library and herbarium advantages he removed to Berkeley in 1920 and was soon appointed honorary curator in the herbarium at the University of California and a little later lecturer in botany at Stanford University. His library was purchased by Pomona College and his invaluable herbarium by Stanford University. He passed away at Berkeley on June 5, 1928, in his ninety-first year, having been active botanically until within a year of his death.

In 1915 Mr. Parish and Ellsworth Huntington joined forces for an expedition into the arid wastes of Death Valley. Both men had had much field experience and neither was in need of homilies on the thesis laid down by H. G. Wells in one of his books that a camping trip is the most severe test of human nature ever invented. On the return journey Dr. Huntington expressed a desire to meet Mrs. Parish. It was arranged. Said Dr. Huntington: "I have been curious, Mrs. Parish, to meet the woman who had the penetration to select so remarkable a man as Mr. Parish. I have in three weeks enjoyed him to the full."

The well-worn path that led to the door of the rose-covered Parish cottage in the San Bernardino Valley has been trod by scores of botanists, beginning with the early visits of Asa Gray and George Engelmann and coming on down to the later ones of Hugo de Vries and J. N. Rose. All these men and others who knew this quiet earnest worker had feelings akin to those of Dr. Huntington. Wise in foresight, thoughtful and considerate, generous of his store of botanical knowledge, unfailing in his dry and emollient humor, men were warmed by the wholesome personality of Samuel Bonsall Parish. In him the Wise Mother seemed in an unusual degree to have mixed harmoniously the ingredients of human nature.

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SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF TROPICAL MEDICINE

THE International Congress of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene had its final meeting at Cairo on the morning of December 22 and the official proceedings ended in the evening with a *soirée* given by the organization committee in the Heliopolis Palace Hotel.

According to a report in the London *Times* the meeting was preceded by the ceremony, over which the Minister of Education, Ahmed Bey Lutfy es Seyyid, presided, of conferring honorary degrees of the Egyptian Faculty of Medicine on some of the foreign delegates. Professor Nuthall, Sir Robert Philip and