Among the nearly six hundred science teachers of New York's public high schools, distributed among some thirty-eight senior high and fifty-two junior high schools, membership in the American Association and in other scientific organizations is not generally as large as shown by the two schools cited above. However, there is good reason to believe that much of the apparent indifference has been due more to lack of information about scientific affiliations than to the lack of interest and professional attitude, and the two schools just cited are evidence to this effect. So far, the committee mentioned above has been chiefly concerned to promote membership in the American Association and its affiliated societies. It will be glad, now, to bring to the attention of the biology teachers any publications which have interest and pertinency in the fields of botany, zoology, human biology and hygiene. Furthermore, a copy of the most recent mailing list will be sent to the secretary of any biological organization or the editor of any biological periodical who would be interested to send sample copies or prospectuses of their work.

Finally the interest of the professional scientists of the country is asked in the problems of high-school science as a challenging opportunity and obligation. Too often the attitude of the college science teacher has even been obstructive and unsympathetic, especially with respect to college requirements. Promote the work of the high-school science teacher by welcoming him into your societies, by offering courses at times when he can take them, by speaking to the meetings of his special organizations.

Advances in science knowledge, in exploratory work, must naturally remain for the pioneer work of the few in the universities and research institutions, but the application of their discoveries in daily life, their extension among our one hundred and twenty million citizens, can best be attained by seeing to it that the four and a half million in the secondary schools receive a thorough training in the basic sciences. What does it matter that the scientist more and more effectively uses the methods of dispassionate analysis and synthetic constructive thought in discovering new facts if the general run of folk continue to think of disease and evolution, for example, so far as they think at all, in terms of ideas hundreds of years out-dated?

At present, high-school science must struggle for effective representation in high-school curricula with all the older subjects which hold their position tenaciously, mainly because of tradition. In an era in which science plays the important part that it does to-day, it would seem not unreasonable to suggest that a carefully determined sequence of science subjects be made the required core of the six years of the junior-senior high-school years, and that even English, as a mode of improving expression and appreciation, be relegated to a secondary position, in favor of science as the means of acquiring judgment and ideas to express. Is it not reasonable to forecast a future when men will look back at our time with wonder that young people could finish twelve years of public training with little or no real training in science courses?

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

REPORT OF THE BRITISH COMMISSION OF FORESTRY

THE ninth annual report of the Forestry Commissioners says, according to the London *Times*, that the balance remaining in the Forestry Fund at September 30, 1927, was £406,103. Payments into the fund amounted to £627,092, and out of the fund to £648,936. Land acquisition during the year amounted to 43,953 acres, of which 32,056 acres were classified as plantable. Disposals amounted to 993 acres (981 acres plantable), thus reducing the net acquisition of plantable land to 31,075 acres. The total area of plantable land acquired to September 30, 1928, amounted to 275,913 acres, or 57,287 acres less than the proposed area. The area of state forests planted with conifers during the year was 21,496 acres, compared with 26,700 acres under the Acland Program, and 26,800 acres under the commissioners' revised program. The total to the end of the year was 110,910 acres, compared with 120,000 acres for the Acland Program and 119,700 for the revised program. The total area planted to September 30, 1928, was 116,676 acres. The planting program for the current season is 23,000 acres, and should this be fully completed, the total area planted by the commissioners in the ten years will amount to 139,676 acres.

The area proposed, under the Acland Report, to be afforested or replanted by local authorities and private owners with state assistance during the ten years was 110,000 acres, or an average of 11,000 acres per annum. By means of grants, 47,373 acres have been planted, 20,571 prepared for planting and 9,451 cleared of shrub. The systematic formation of forest workers' holdings was begun in the summer of 1924, and had therefore been running for four years at the end of the year under review. Up to September 30, 1928, 490 holdings had been completed (133 in the year under review), and 282 were in process of formation.