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THE INSTRUMENTS OF PLANT BIOLOGY¹

By Dr. H. A. SPOEHR

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION, STANFORD UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH and teaching are the warp and woof in the complex fabric of education. The necessity of adjustment to the new world which scientific thought is creating is the joint responsibility of the teacher and of the researcher. Institutions devoted to research, in order to remain virile, must from time to time reexamine their aims and objectives and effect a restatement of their program in conformity with the advancement produced by their own efforts and with that of modern thought. The dedication of this building marks another step in the progress of biological science in the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Our institution has since the inception of its activities supported various research projects in the plant

¹ Address at the dedication of the central laboratory of the Division of Plant Biology, Carnegie Institution of Washington. This building is located on the campus of Stanford University, and dedication exercises were held August 27, 1929, Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, vice-chairman of the board of trustees of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, presiding.

sciences. These have been devoted mainly to special problems, and from time to time new projects have been undertaken which were organized either independently or in conjunction with existing ones. In 1928 the Division of Plant Biology was formed to embrace all these projects operating in the western United States, with the view of facilitating cooperation between the workers in these groups and with other activities of the institution, for the unification of research programs and of administrative arrangements and to provide a basis for future development.

The Division of Plant Biology is thus composed of a number of sections constituting relatively small groups of workers who are devoting their attention to special projects. These sections are located according to the requirements of the particular scientific problems under investigation.

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