

ternational Eugenics Committee which built up the international collaboration which made the second congress possible. This Permanent International Eugenics Committee was changed, in 1921, to the Permanent International Eugenics Commission, which in 1925 developed into the present International Federation of Eugenic Organizations, which, among other functions, fosters collaboration among the several nations in their eugenical researches between congresses, and sponsors international congresses from time to time. Dr. Davenport was formally selected as president of the third congress by the ninth meeting of the International Federation of Eugenic Organizations which met at Farnham, England, in September, 1930. This same meeting of the federation duly committed to the American delegation the function of organizing and managing the third congress. In response to these two votes of the federation, Dr. Davenport called the American delegation together at the Yale Club last November. This delegation, by vote, formally accepted the responsibility and, in accordance with the actions already taken by the federation and the authority granted, perfected and announced the following working organization and preliminary plans for the congress.

*President*—Charles B. Davenport, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y.

*Honorary Presidents*—Leonard Darwin, Henry Fairfield Osborn.

*Vice-presidents*—Victor Delfino, Argentina; H. Reichel, Austria; A. Govaerts, Belgium; D. F. Ramos y Delgado,

Cuba; V. Růžička, Czechoslovakia; Sören Hansen, Denmark; A. Liiis, Esthonia; Harry Federley, Finland; Georges Schreiber, France; Alfred Ploetz, Germany; Sir Bernard Mallet, Great Britain; Corrado Gini, Italy; Marianne Van Herwerden, Netherlands; Jon Alfred Mjølén, Norway; Leon Wernic, Poland; N. K. Koltzoff, Russia; H. B. Fantham, South Africa; H. Lundborg, Sweden; O. Schlaginhaufen, Switzerland; Irving Fisher, United States.

*Treasurer*—Frederick Osborn, 52 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

*Secretary*—Harry H. Laughlin, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y.

*Chairmen of Administrative Committees*—Scientific Papers and General Program, Charles B. Davenport; Entertainment, Mrs. Charles Cary Rumsey; Finance, Frederick Osborn; Exhibits, Harry H. Laughlin; Publication and Publicity, Leon F. Whitney.

*Managing Committee*—Charles B. Davenport, *chairman*; Irving Fisher, *vice-chairman*; Clarence G. Campbell, Madison Grant, Frederick Osborn, Leon F. Whitney; Harry H. Laughlin, *secretary*.

An exhibition covering the present status of eugenical research will be held at the museum. It is planned to open this exhibition on August 22, and to continue it, open to the public, until September 22.

The members of the congress will be taken on an excursion to Cold Spring Harbor on Sunday, August 21, to visit the Eugenics Record Office and the Station for Experimental Evolution which, together, constitute the Department of Genetics of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR ALFRED EWING, lately principal and vice-chancellor of the University of Edinburgh and previously professor of applied mechanics at the University of Cambridge, has been nominated as president for 1932 of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

THE Hillebrand Prize of the Chemical Society of Washington has been awarded to Dr. Claude S. Hudson, of the U. S. Public Health Service, with special reference to his work on the ring structure of sugar.

THE Society of Arts and Sciences, New York, has awarded its 1931 medals for "outstanding scientific achievement" to Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of Harvard College Observatory, and to Dr. William Crocker, director of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research.

THE American Geographical Society announces the award of the David Livingstone Centenary Medal to Captain Hjalmar Riiser-Larsen, for his work in the

Antarctic as leader of the *Norvegia* expedition in 1929-1930. He has returned to the Antarctic, joining the *Norvegia* early this year, to take charge of the latter part of the season's work. Captain Riiser-Larsen has also participated in two notable Arctic expeditions—the Amundsen-Ellsworth Polar Flight of 1925 and the flight of the *Norge* across the Polar Sea in 1926.

At a dinner of the directors of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers held last November, Dr. Henry S. Drinker, president emeritus of Lehigh University, was presented with a gold watch bearing the following inscription: "Henry Sturgis Drinker—Founder—American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers from his appreciative fellow members—1930." Dr. Drinker observed his eightieth birthday on November 8, 1930.

A DINNER in honor of Professor E. B. Wilson, as retiring president of the Social Science Research Council, was given at the University Club, New York,

on the evening of March 27. The speakers included Professor Charles E. Merriam, of the University of Chicago; Professor Wesley C. Mitchell, of Columbia University; Dr. Waldo G. Leland, permanent secretary of the American Council of Learned Societies; Dr. John C. Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and Professor Arthur M. Schlesinger, of Harvard University, who presided.

At the recent meeting in Baltimore of the American College of Physicians, Dr. S. Marx White, president-elect of the college, was inducted as president. Dr. Francis M. Pottenger, of Monrovia, California, president and medical director of the Pottenger Sanatorium, was chosen president-elect for 1932. He will assume office at the meeting next year at San Francisco. Other officers elected were: *First Vice-president*, Dr. Alfred Scott Warthin, of Ann Arbor, Michigan; *Second Vice-president*, Dr. Charles G. Jennings, of Detroit; *Third Vice-president*, Dr. John A. Lichty, of Clifton Springs, New York.

A HARVARD CHAPTER of Sigma Xi was inaugurated on March 28. Professor Harlow Shapley, of Harvard College Observatory, presided, and Professor George W. Stewart, national president of the society; President Lowell; Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor Walter H. Snell, of Brown University; Professor Jerome W. Howe, of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and Professor John S. Nicholas, of Yale University, spoke. Professor Shapley was elected president of the chapter and Professor Kirtley F. Mather secretary.

DR. T. WAYLAND VAUGHAN, director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, at La Jolla, has been elected a member of an advisory committee on the "General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans" of the International Hydrographical Bureau of Monaco.

PROFESSOR KARL GOEBEL, director of the botanical garden of the University of Munich, has been invited to be Speyer visiting professor at the Johns Hopkins University for 1931-32.

PROFESSOR HOWEL WILLIAMS, at present in California, has been appointed professor of geology at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

DR. E. E. CLAYTON has resigned his position as associate in research in the department of botany of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station to become plant pathologist in the Office of Tobacco Investigations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

DR. WILLIAM C. YOUNG, instructor in biology at Brown University since 1928, has received a National Research Council fellowship for study abroad and will continue his work under Professor von Mollen-

dorff at the University of Freiburg, Germany, next year. He is a graduate of Amherst in the class of 1921.

THE J. T. Baker Chemical Company Research Fellowship in Analytical Chemistry, Midwest Division, has been awarded to H. C. Fogg, formerly instructor in chemistry at the University of New Hampshire. He will work at the University of Michigan under the direction of Dr. H. H. Willard.

DR. R. B. LINDSAY, associate professor of physics at Brown University, has accepted an invitation to offer a graduate course in acoustics at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in the second semester of the academic years, 1931-32. He will go to the institute as visiting professor of theoretical physics.

DR. FRANK B. COTNER, associate professor of botany and bacteriology in Montana State College, will during the coming summer be a member of the staff of the department of botany at the University of Michigan. Dr. Cotner is acting head of the department of botany and bacteriology during the present academic year in the absence of Professor D. B. Swingle, who is on sabbatical leave at the University of Wisconsin, where he is engaged in research work.

DR. HARRY H. LOVE, professor of plant breeding at Cornell University, has left for China, where, during the next three years at the University of Nanking, he will organize plant improvement projects for the Chinese Government, under the auspices of the joint Cornell-Nanking University-International Education Board. The Chinese Government is preparing to take over full control of the work of this organization.

MR. M. W. STIRLING, chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology, has been excavating a mound on Horr Island off the west coast of Florida. Toward the end of March he planned to go to Cape Canaveral to look over some sites, thence to Miami and by airplane to Haiti, where he will join Dr. Wetmore, Mr. Parish and Mr. Krieger on a short visit to the archeological sites found by Mr. Parish on Vache Island. Mr. Stirling is expected to return to Washington the early part of April.

DR. ROY CHAPMAN ANDREWS sailed on March 28 for China to search on the plains of eastern Mongolia for the fossils of the pre-Peking man.

DR. SAMUEL W. STRATTON, chairman of the corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and formerly director of the United States Bureau of Standards at Washington, sailed on March 28 for Europe. He goes to Paris, where he will be the representative of the government at the forthcoming meeting of the International Committee of Weights and Measures. This conference will be held at the In-

ternational Bureau of Weights and Measures at Sèvres from April 10 to April 22. Dr. Stratton will return to America immediately after the conclusion of the meeting.

DR. WILLIAM H. WELCH, of the Johns Hopkins University, gave the principal address at the annual banquet of the American College of Physicians meeting at Baltimore.

DR. THEOBALD SMITH was a visiting lecturer at the School of Tropical Medicine in San Juan, Porto Rico, during a two-week period in March. He gave a series of lectures to the faculty and students and studied the medical problems of the island. Dr. Walter W. Palmer, Bard professor of medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, visited the school for ten days in March, giving several lectures and holding clinics at the University Hospital.

DR. M. M. LEIGHTON, chief of the State Geological Survey of Illinois, addressed the St. Louis University Sigma Xi Club on March 17, on "Recent Studies Bearing on the Chronology of the Glacial Deposits of the Mississippi Valley States."

DR. WALTER R. MILES, professor of psychology in Stanford University and visiting research professor of medicine in Yale University, on March 25 addressed a graduate seminar in psychology at Brown University on "Visual Fixation." In the evening he delivered a Marshall Woods lecture on "Dilute Alcoholic Beverages and Human Behavior."

DR. HERBERT A. EVANS, of the University of California, who was to give the Bacon lectures at the University of Illinois College of Medicine on March 31 and April 1, is suffering from an attack of influenza, and was unable to give the lectures as announced.

THE 1931 Messenger Lectures at Cornell University will be given in April by Dr. Thomas H. Morgan, director of the William G. Kerekhoff Laboratories of the Biological Sciences at the California Institute of Technology. The series, which has for its subject "The Experimental Study of Organic Evolution," will comprise twelve lectures, starting on April 9 and continuing until April 24. The Messenger Foundation, established in 1923 through a bequest of about \$77,000 in the will of Dr. Hiram J. Messenger, of Hartford, Connecticut, provides for an annual course of lectures on some phase of the evolution of civilization, "for the special purpose of raising the moral standard of our political, business, and social life." Professor Morgan will speak on the following twelve topics: The Mutation Theory and its Chromosomal Background; The Cellular Basis of Heredity and Evolution; Mendelian Inheritance and Its Bearings on the

Evolution Theory; Artificial Selection, Mutation and Evolution; Adaptation and Natural Selection; Variability and Selection; The Theory of Sexual Selection and Hormones; Embryonic Development and Its Relation to Evolution; The Inheritance of Acquired Characters and Mutation; The Social Evolution of Man: Nature and Nurture; Evolution as a Response to the Order of Nature; Mechanistic and Metaphysical Interpretations of Biology and Evolution.

FOR the third year the Geographic Society of Chicago is offering a research series of three lectures in Fullerton Hall of the Art Institute of Chicago. The titles for 1931 are as follows: Dr. Darrell H. Davis, the University of Minnesota, "Facts of the Human Habitat in the Central Northwest"; Dr. Robert B. Hall, the University of Michigan, "The Yamato Basin," and Dr. Wellington D. Jones, the University of Chicago, "Land Occupance in Dairy Farming Communities Adjacent to Metropolitan Chicago."

AT the Vanderbilt School of Medicine lectures have been arranged as follows: On March 31 by Dr. George R. Minot, professor of medicine at the Harvard Medical School, under the auspices of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honorary Society; on April 16 by Dr. Charles R. Stockard, professor of anatomy at the Cornell Medical School, under the auspices of the Phi Beta Pi fraternity, which has established an annual lectureship; on April 4 by Dr. G. F. McCleary, of the British Ministry of Health, who will speak on "The Control of Narcotic Drug Addiction." Dr. McCleary is coming to this country primarily for the purpose of delivering one of the DeLamar Lectures at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

THE annual joint meeting of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, the Wisconsin Archeological Society and the Midwest Museum Conference will be held at Ripon College on April 10 and 11. An illustrated lecture on North African Ethnology will be given by Alonzo W. Pond on the evening of the tenth.

PROFESSOR GEORGE T. HARGITT, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, secretary of section F of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, writes that in connection with the summer meeting of the association in Pasadena from June 15 to 20, Section F (Zoology) will hold such sessions as are necessary for the accommodation of papers presented by its members. The following information should be furnished by those desiring a place on the program: Title of paper; abstract of about 200 words; charts or lantern to be used; microscopes needed for demonstration; under what group the paper should be listed—physiology, embryology, cytology, comparative

anatomy, genetics, parasitology, protozoology. Papers will be limited to 15 minutes. Such information should be sent direct to Dr. Bennet M. Allen, department of zoology, University of California, Los Angeles, who is in charge of the program arrangements. Titles, abstracts and other information must be in his hands not later than May 15.

THE twenty-fifth annual convention of the Illuminating Engineering Society will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from October 13 to 16, inclusive, 1931. Headquarters will be established at the William Penn Hotel. As in previous years, a preconvention session of Lighting Service Engineers will be held on the day preceding the official opening of the convention. A special feature of this year's meeting will be the observance of the society's silver anniversary.

THE scientific session of the American Heart Association will be held on June 9, from 10:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M., in the Main Surgical Clinic of the Pennsylvania Hospital at Eighth and Spruce Streets, Philadelphia.

*Nature*, quoting from *Chemistry and Industry*, states that the International Atomic Weights Commission will meet for the first time since the war. The Federal Council for Chemistry, in view of the progress made in ensuring the truly international character of the Union Internationale de Chimie, has decided to dissolve the existing committees on the chemical elements and to appoint a new international committee. This is to consist of G. P. Baxter (United States), O. Hönigschmid (Munich), P. Lebeau (Paris), R. J. Meyer (Berlin), and Mme. Curie. Professor G. Urbain has been elected honorary president of the committee, which has been charged with the duty of preparing an annual international table of atomic weights. New committees on isotopes and radioactive elements are in course of formation.

It is estimated that £700,000 will eventually become available for cancer research as a result of a provision in the will of Montague Stanley Napier, motor car manufacturer and airplane designer, who died in Cannes in January.

MRS. MARY E. LIBBEY, widow of Dr. William Libbey, of Princeton University, has made a gift of \$6,000 to the Graduate School of Geography at Clark University. She had already given \$1,000 and Dr. Libbey's collection of geographical instruments, a special card catalogue and a collection of 14,000 lantern slides to found the Libbey Memorial Library at the university.

ACCORDING to *Nature* an experimental room has been set up at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in which it is possible to repro-

duce by means of an air-conditioning plant varied climatic conditions and any temperature, humidity or air movement which may occur in factories or mines. Experimental subjects rest or work under the conditions to be investigated, and by observation of the pulse, body temperature, skin temperature, loss of weight due to sweating, and expenditure of energy by measuring the air breathed and oxygen used, it is possible to study the effect of such air conditions on the human body.

*Museum News* reports that the government program for improvements in the City of Washington includes the demolition of the Army Medical Museum building which is on the Mall near the Smithsonian Institution. The exhibits will be transferred to a new building to be erected at the Walter Reed Medical Center, if tentative plans formulated by the War Department are put into effect.

THE will of Egbert C. Fuller, president of the E. C. Fuller Company, of New York, who died at New Haven on March 5, provides for the establishment of a fund which the executors estimate will reach \$1,500,000, to be used "for alleviation of suffering from disease and especially for the control of cancer." Mr. Fuller, in his will, directed that the fund be known as the Anna Fuller Fund, in memory of his wife, who died from "this painful disease." The fund may be used according to the will only for research as to its cause, treatment and care; the education of the public as to its prevention and treatment and the actual treatment of persons suffering from the disease. While there is hope of preventing cancer, Mr. Fuller provides in his will that the fund shall not be used for the treatment of persons suffering with the disease "except as incidental to such research and education." The will also provides for the creation of the Anna Fuller memorial prize which is to be given to any person or persons who "make a real and outstanding contribution to knowledge of the cause, care and prevention or cure of cancer." Such award or awards shall not in any five-year period exceed the sum of \$25,000. Prizes are to be awarded upon the recommendation of the president of the American Medical Association, the dean of the Johns Hopkins Medical School, and the dean of the Harvard Medical School.

CONTROL of the Sully's Hill area in North Dakota was transferred from the National Park Service to the Department of Agriculture by legislative enactment shortly before the adjournment of Congress. The area, established as a national park in 1904, has never been actively administered by the National Park Service. Although a picturesque forested tract, once the scene of a famous Indian battle, it is lacking in those outstanding natural features of national importance

so essential to national parkhood. For many years the Bureau of Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture has maintained a game preserve in the area and has financed all improvements made there. The superintendent of the Fort Totten Indian School, through the courtesy of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has served as acting superintendent of the Sully's Hill Park without cost to the National Park Service.

THE Beit Railway Trust has completed its scheme of fellowships for the two Rhodesias. In order to provide opportunities for young men in Rhodesia to undertake post-graduate studies, the trustees offer three post-graduate fellowships annually tenable for two years at universities, or for special studies at institutions approved by the trustees, in South Africa, Great Britain, the Oversea Dominions, the Continent of Europe, or the United States. The value of a fellowship is £250 per annum, if held in South Africa, and £375 per annum if held oversea. If the course described by a candidate at an approved institution is obtainable in South Africa, preference will be given to that country. Candidates must hold a recognized university degree, be unmarried, and be of European descent through both parents. They must not have passed their twenty-sixth birthday on the date of application and must have resided in Northern or Southern Rhodesia for three full years before the date of application, save that, where a candidate has spent all or part of that period outside Rhodesia in a university or university college, his parents must have resided in Rhodesia for at least five years before the date of application. The administration of the fellowships will be in the hands of an advisory board, of which the chairman will be the Governor of Southern Rhodesia. It is pointed out that out of the funds provided by the will of the late Otto Beit it will now be possible for a boy who begins his education in a Rhodesian primary school to obtain assistance through the secondary school to a South African university and thence to a university or technical institution in Great Britain, the Oversea Dominions, the continent of Europe, or the United States. Sir Alfred Beit has been appointed a Beit Railway Trustee in succession to his father, the late Sir Otto Beit.

THE discovery of element 75, rhenium, was announced by the German chemists, Walter Noddack and Ida Tacke, in 1925. The first actual evidence of its existence was the finding of three or four new lines in x-ray spectra. Through the donation of 1 gram of pure potassium perrhenate to the Bureau of Standards by Dr. A. V. Grosse, of the Institute of Technology, Berlin, a study of the emission spectrum of the new element was made possible. Measurements have now been made by W. F. Meggers at the Bureau of Standards of the arc spectrum of rhenium in the

region from 2,300 Å in the ultra-violet to 8,800 Å in the infra-red. Approximately 2,000 lines have been discovered, all of which are new to the science of spectroscopy, since they are not identifiable with lines emitted by any other known atoms.

THE proceedings of the celebration of the three-hundredth anniversary of the first recognized use of cinchona, held at the Missouri Botanical Garden, October 31 and November 1, 1930, are now ready for distribution. This volume will consist of about 250 pages containing a complete account of the celebration, and will include in addition to scientific papers the dinner speeches by Judge George C. Hitchcock, President, Board of Trustees, Missouri Botanical Garden, presiding; Dr. C. E. Caspari, Dean, St. Louis College of Pharmacy, St. Louis, Missouri; Mr. W. D. Besant, Director of Parks and Botanic Gardens, Glasgow, Scotland; Dr. George D. Rosen-garten, Past President of American Chemical Society, Malvern, Pennsylvania, and Dr. A. R. Van Linge, N. V. Nederlandsche Kininefabriek, Maarssen, Netherlands.

*The Wistar Institute News* reports that owing to the excessive space required in *The Anatomical Record* to print the abstracts of papers presented at the meetings of the American Association of Anatomists and the American Society of Zoologists, the proceedings of these meetings, and the membership lists, it has seemed best to issue four supplements to the *Record* in each year. One supplement would carry the abstracts of papers to be presented at the meetings of the American Society of Zoologists. Another the proceedings and membership list of this society. The third supplement would contain the abstracts of papers to be presented at the meetings of the American Association of Anatomists, and the fourth supplement would contain the proceedings of the meetings and membership list. By this means the publication of original research material will not be delayed.

THE National Forest Reservation Commission on February 25 approved the purchase of 254,022 acres in 19 states, to cost \$1,186,159.40, for incorporation into national forests. The commission is composed of Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior; Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture; Patrick J. Hurley, Secretary of War, chairman; Senators Keyes (Rep.), of New Hampshire, and Harris (Dem.), of Georgia; and Representatives Hawley (Rep.), of Salem, Oreg., and Aswell (Dem.), of Natchitoches, La. Preliminary purchase agreements, including prices, have been made. The lands involved comprise 290 tracts in 26 purchase units or national forests, a purchase unit being a tract designated for purchase for inclusion in a national forest or for establishment of a

new forest. The purchase approved in the Green Mountain unit in Vermont is the first in that unit, which eventually will be a national forest. The com-

mission also discussed establishment of three new purchase units in Wisconsin, but no action was taken on them.

## DISCUSSION

### ERRONEOUS CITATIONS AND TITLES OF SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

EXPERIENCES in connection with the editorial supervision of scientific papers sent in for publication in standard journals, and in connection with the use of literature lists published in other journals, have revealed and emphasized two weaknesses on the part of investigators, which should be considered seriously by every author who attempts to publish an account of his work, and by every editor responsible to the public for the kind of service he renders.

The most discouraging feature of manuscripts, just as they are received from the authors, is the lack of accuracy in citation of pertinent literature, caused by a common failure to check up the citations with the original papers. *It is never safe to copy a citation from some other author's literature list.* Without casting reflections upon any author in particular, I wish to cite a couple specific cases to illustrate this point. Here is a paper by S. S. ZILVA, on "The Action of Ultra-Violet Rays on the Accessory Food Factors," published in the *Biochem. Jour.* **13**: 164-171. 1919. ZILVA cites STEENBOCK, BOUTWELL and KENT as *Jour. Biol. Chem.* **36**: 577. 1918. On looking up this citation, I found myself in the midst of a paper by HARDEN and YOUNG on "Action of Enzymes on Human Placenta." The correct citation for the STEENBOCK paper is *Jour. Biol. Chem.* **35**: 517-526. 1918.

Another example may be chosen from the *Biochemical Journal*, but might be duplicated from any journal. WEBSTER and HILL, in a paper on "The Supposed Influence of Irradiated Air on Growth," *Biochem. Jour.* **18**: 340-346. 1924, cite STEENBOCK and NELSON as *Jour. Biol. Chem.* **61**: 355. 1923. On going to this journal, I found a paper by Petrén on "Low Nitrogen Metabolism with Low Carbohydrate Diet in Diabetes." The STEENBOCK and NELSON article was finally located in volume **56**: 355-373. 1923, after searching the indices of five volumes.

These are not isolated cases. Everyone who attempts to examine the literature cited in scientific papers will almost immediately run into aggravating difficulties because of the lack of care of authors who are too anxious to publish to take proper time with this indispensable adjunct to a good paper—the literature cited. As an editor with some years of experience in handling publication of papers, I have found it necessary to check up on *all authors*. There is seldom a paper handed in that is free of erroneous

citations. In some few cases the citations have been 100 per cent. in error, *even when the author was citing his own work!* To give more concrete quantitative data concerning this evil, a check has been made on a series of papers handled during 1930. The batting average for whole numbers of a publication is approximately 54 per cent. in the cases examined. Forty-six per cent. of the citations needed correction in some way or other. The errors are of numerous kinds, including misspelled names of authors, wrong initials of authors, omission of parts of titles, or substitution of words in titles, change of singular to plural or *vice versa*, omission of umlauts in German titles and of accents in French, failure to capitalize German nouns, capitalization of German adjectives, errors in name of journal, errors in volume number, omission or errors in page limits, error in or omission of year of publication, etc., etc. Every conceivable error that can be made is being made daily by authors, and most of them seem to be utterly unconscious of bad technique in this connection. Or perhaps they think: What's the use of having an editor, if not to do these chores?

Since very few editors take the time and trouble to check up on these errors of citation before publication, the literature lists published during recent years are full of erroneous citations, and it is for this reason that it is never safe to copy a citation from such a list. Nothing but consultation of the original source can insure accuracy, and every author who cites literature should take enough pride in his work to insure accuracy in the literature citations.

The other point of weakness which needs to be considered by authors of papers is the advertising of series of papers through double titles. Turning to a recent literature list in *Plant Physiology*, we find the following: "Some influences of the development of higher plants upon the microorganisms in the soil. III. Influence of the stage of plant growth upon some activities of the organism." And from the *Annals of Botany* comes this title: "Observations on the anatomy of teratological seedlings. I. On the anatomy of some polycotylous seedlings of *Cheiranthus cheiri*." Occasionally authors write in asking to change a perfectly good simple but adequate title to one of these long double titles that require three lines to cite, whereas the simple one requires but one. One wonders why an author should desire these long titles, with constant duplication of the first half. Does he imagine that it is impressive of his prolific authorship