

students of genetics, presenting a wide range of new possibilities.

Of great importance for the genetic interpretation of polyploidy in terms of chromosomes is the identification of chromosomes that carry specific genes. Only a few years ago this was known in only one

animal, but the number of cases is steadily increasing. Until information of this kind becomes more general there will be, as at present, a good deal of guessing as to the relation of chromosome groups having different numbers of chromosomes.

(To be concluded)

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

MUNICIPAL RECREATION AREAS

THE National Recreation Association has issued a statement in regard to recreation areas that have been donated to cities in the United States.

According to this statement park and recreation areas, valued at more than \$100,000,000 and comprising 75,000 acres, have been donated to municipalities in the United States, according to a study made by the National Recreation Association.

These parks comprise one third of all municipal recreation areas, the remainder having been secured by the expenditure of municipal funds. Some cities, including New Brunswick, New Jersey; Oneonta, New York, and Raleigh, North Carolina, reported that every acre of their existing parks was secured through gifts.

Typical of the varied types of areas given are the Edwin Gould Playground of 6.5 acres in Dobbs Ferry, New York; Percy Warner Park of 700 acres in Nashville, Tennessee, and the Littauer Park and swimming pool of 4.1 acres in Gloversville, New York. H. C. Frick, of Pittsburgh, willed 151 acres, now known as Frick Park, to the city and in addition left a fund of \$2,000,000, the income from which was to be used for maintaining, improving and adding to the park.

Northampton, Massachusetts, the home of former President Coolidge, was given an area of 103 acres, known as Look Memorial Park. A fund of \$450,000 was also given by Mrs. Fannie B. Look for developing and maintaining the park. Fred Morgan Kirby in 1921 gave Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, \$250,000 to develop Kirby Park, adding \$120,000 in 1924 and creating an endowment of half a million dollars.

A variety of motives inspired the park gifts. One applicable to many gifts is the desire to perpetuate the memory of a citizen who has given special service to his community or to the nation. In Summit, New Jersey, for example, the citizens, desiring to provide a lasting memorial to Hamilton Wright Mabie, made a fund to purchase and improve a tract of land opposite the Civic Center. The area, known as the Mabie Memorial Playground, possesses natural beauty and has been equipped with many recreation facilities, including tennis courts, a shelter house and playground apparatus. The Cauldwell Playground in

Morristown, New Jersey, is a memorial to a former mayor, as is the David N. Ropes Playground in Orange of the same state.

Lieutenant Clayton C. Ingersoll Memorial Park of 110 acres in Rockford, Illinois, was given by the parents of the young man for whom the park was named. He was killed in the war.

Mr. and Mrs. William Allen White, of Emporia, have developed an area of fifty-one acres as a city park, naming it "Mary's Garden" in memory of their daughter. Among the restrictions accompanying the gift are that the name White will never be used in connection with the park and that the donors shall have five years in which to spend as much of their own money as they wish in improving the park.

Robert Greer Playground in Elizabeth, New Jersey, was given by the father of a boy killed by an automobile. The donor of Pope Park in Hartford, Connecticut, offered this area to the city, stating, "A large part of the success of any manufacturing business depends upon the health, happiness and orderly life of its employees." He made it a condition that the city buy another tract of land so situated as to benefit the employees of all the factories in that section of the city.

THE COST OF SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

THE *Wistar Institute News* says: "On August 15, 1932, a circular letter was addressed to the editors of all journals published by The Wistar Institute. The responses from editors have been so gratifying in their support of the institute's policy that it seems advisable, in order to aid the editors in their arduous and thankless task, to publish the letter in *The Wistar Institute News*."

The letter, signed by Dr. M. J. Greenman, director of the institute, reads:

During 1931, The Wistar Institute published more pages in its several journals than during any previous year (8,091 pages). During the first six months of 1932 there has been a very considerable increase in the number of pages over the first six months of 1931. At the same time the individual support of journals is decreasing.

It would appear that some men who write papers are not interested in supporting journals. Perhaps there is a very good reason for this.