and (vice-chairman) Elsa Horn, Kansas State College, Manhattan; *chemistry,* W. W. Floyd, Ottawa University, Ottawa; *physics,* G. W. Maxwell, Kansas State College, Manhattan; *psychology,* J. B. Stroud, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia; *entomology,* P. A. Readio, University of Kansas, Lawrence; *Junior Academy,* Hazel E. Branch, University of Wichita, Wichita. Additional *members of the executive council* are: Robert Taft, University of Kansas, Lawrence; F. U. G. Agrelius, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia; L. Oncley, Southwestern College, Winfield. Dr. F. C. Gates, of the Kansas State College, Manhattan, was reappointed editor.

State aid to the extent of $300 a year was reported by the chairman of the state aid committee, Dr. W. J. Baumgartner, of the University of Kansas at Lawrence. The 1934 meeting will be held in Wichita.

GEORGE E. JOHNSON,
Secretary

THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE summer meeting of the Texas Academy of Science was held at College Station, where it was the guest of the Agricultural and Mechanical College. At the banquet on May 19, a class of thirty-three new members, all from the faculty of the college, was introduced to the membership. Following the banquet Dr. Mark Francis, widely known for his work on Texas tick fever and for his interest in the paleontology of the Gulf Coast, delivered an illustrated lecture relative to his findings in Texas. At the conclusion Dr. E. N. Jones, president of the academy, presented Dr. Francis with a certificate of life fellowship. Saturday was given over to three field trips. The botanical section under Dr. R. G. Reeves, of A. and M. College, visited locations where the local flora was best represented. The geological section, headed by Dr. H. B. Stenzel, of A. and M. College, and Professor and Mrs. F. B. Plummer, of the University of Texas, visited some newly discovered fossil deposits near the college. The third section represented a combination of interests and made a tour through the eastern part of the state, visiting various points of biological and historical interest. At the meeting of the executive committee arrangements were made for the annual meeting to be held at Dallas on October 20 and 21, and the invitation of Dr. Edwin F. Carpenter, secretary-treasurer of the Southwestern Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, for a joint meeting in May, 1934, was referred to the regular session of the executive committee for consideration.

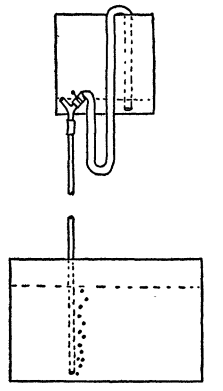
H. B. PARKS,
Secretary-Treasurer

SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND LABORATORY METHODS

A SIMPLE AQUARIUM AERATOR

IN the course of the school year it is frequently desirable to maintain aquaria, both of fresh and salt water, for intervals of a week or two. In order to accomplish this some system of aeration is usually necessary, but in many cases one feels that the purchase of an electric pump is hardly justified. Several fairly simple and efficient aerating devices have been described (Schaeffer,[1] Walker,[2] etc.), but they require that running water be available and limit the location of aquaria to within a few feet of a sink. The writer has been using, quite successfully, a very simple aerator, which can be constructed in a few minutes from materials available in most laboratories, requires no electricity or running water to maintain it, needs only a few minutes' attention a day, can not misbehave in such a way as to injure the contents of the aquarium or flood it with tap water, and allows the aquarium to be placed almost anywhere in the room.

Two lengths of glass tubing, one of one eighth inch diameter, the other a size larger; a Y tube preferably the size of the smaller glass tube; some rubber tubing for connections; and a screw tubing clamp are needed. The larger tube is bent in the form of a "constant level" siphon, as shown in the diagram, the inlet end



being bent slightly to one side so that water can enter freely, even when this end rests on the bottom of a container. The Y, preferably a glass one, especially if sea water is to be used, is connected to the outlet end of the siphon by just enough rubber tubing so that the screw clamp can be fitted on between the end of the siphon and the Y. The open end of the Y should stand a little above the intake end of the

[1] A. A. Schaeffer, SCIENCE, 31: 955, 1910.
[2] J. H. Walker, SCIENCE, 73: 709, 1931.