

however, progressed far enough to warrant any one going into the business of growing or collecting goldenrod.

In experimenting with goldenrod many problems have arisen, which appear in almost every case when a plant is domesticated. Insect and fungous enemies may do little damage when the plant is wild, but once it is concentrated in cultivation these attacks become serious. Several root, stem and leaf diseases have been found in goldenrod plantings in Florida and South Carolina. Leaf diseases are especially disastrous because rubber is formed increasingly in the leaves as they mature, and it is necessary that they remain on the plant as long as possible.

Because of the uncertainty of reproducing desirable strains of goldenrod by seed, vegetative methods have been used. The underground stolons, which are produced freely, propagate readily. As many as five hundred new plants have been grown in a single year from the stolons of a single plant of *Solidago leavenworthii*, growing at Fort Myers, Florida. Plants grown from stolons produce a crop of rubber the first year.

There are two general processes for extracting rubber from plants. With the mechanical method, used with guayule in Mexico and California, the plants are ground up and macerated in a pebble mill. The rubber gathers into small lumps which can be separated from the powdered woody material by flotation in water. The other method is to dissolve the rubber out of the plants by chemical solvents. This is the method best adapted for use with goldenrod.

#### CONFERENCE ON THE BIOLOGY OF SEX

A CONFERENCE on the biology of sex was held from August 25 to 30 at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole under the auspices of the Committee for Research in Problems of Sex of the National Research Council. The committee has been active since 1921. There is one annual meeting and from two to five other meetings a year as necessary.

Various aspects of the work of the committee and of cooperating investigators were discussed under the following subdivisions of the general topic:

"The Status of Work in the General Biology of Sex" by Frank R. Lillie and Carl G. Hartman.

"Endocrinological Problems of Sex" by Philip E. Smith and Charles R. Stockard.

"Neurological Problems of Sex" by Philip Bard and Karl S. Lashley.

"Psychobiological Studies of Sex" by Adolf Meyer and Calvin P. Stone.

Aspects of the physiology of sex and reproduction other than those previously considered were discussed by Edgar Allen and Frederick L. Hisaw.

Participating in the conference were the members of

the committee: Francis G. Blake, Yale School of Medicine; Walter B. Cannon, Harvard Medical School; Frank R. Lillie, University of Chicago; Adolf Meyer, the Johns Hopkins Hospital; Clark Wissler, the American Museum of Natural History; Robert M. Yerkes, Yale University, and the following invited guests: Edgar Allen, Yale School of Medicine; Philip Bard, the Johns Hopkins Medical School; George W. Corner, University of Rochester; Earl T. Engle, Columbia University; Carl G. Hartman, Carnegie Institution of Washington; Frederick L. Hisaw, University of Wisconsin; Fred C. Koch, Karl S. Lashley, Carl R. Moore and William F. Ogburn, University of Chicago; Philip E. Smith, Columbia University; Charles R. Stockard, Cornell University Medical College; Calvin P. Stone, Stanford University; George B. Wislocki, Harvard Medical School; Emil Witschi, University of Iowa.

#### NEW YORK MEETING OF THE BIOLOGICAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION

THE Biological Photographic Association, an organization embracing modern developments in photography, met on September 13, 14 and 15 for its fourth annual convention in New York University.

The convention was held in the biological laboratories of the Washington Square College, on the site where the first photograph of a human face by the light of the sun was made by Professor John W. Draper, nearly a hundred years ago. Louis Schmidt, of the illustration division of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, was chairman of the convention committee.

Two exhibits were held in conjunction with the conference, one of color photography at the university and one at the Hotel Brevoort. The Brevoort exhibit included botanical and crystalline prints submitted by Dr. Silvestre Prat, a member of the association, and his associates of Prague, Czechoslovakia.

The convention opened on Thursday with the address of the president, Ralph P. Creer, of the Edward Hines, Jr. Center, Hines, Illinois. The annual banquet was held at the Hotel Brevoort. Speakers included Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Foster and W. H. Zieler, of E. Leitz, Inc., New York City, on "Photomicrography of Living Objects"; Leonard A. Julin, of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, on "Some Notes on Photography at the Mayo Clinic," and F. R. Harding, of the Children's Hospital, Boston, on "The Importance of the Human Relations of the Biological Photographer with his Chief, his Client and his Patient." On Friday there was a discussion of infra-red photography in medicine by Leo C. Massopust, of Marquette University. L. V. Foster, of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, Rochester, New York, spoke on "Photomicrography with Ultraviolet Light," and