

maintain his position without any serious consequences, but had he been a citizen of the country, one can readily imagine what might have happened.

Now I am quite sure that none of the Russian scientific men have any interest in promoting plots alleged to have originated with Trotsky, but on the other hand, they would not willingly sign such an intemperate and ill-considered paper as that reprinted in *SCIENCE*. I infer that they signed under compul-

sion, or possibly that their names were appended without their consent. The paper should not be taken too seriously. The use of intemperate language is not confined to Russia; there are people in all countries who imagine that a grossly exaggerated and distorted statement will be more convincing than a fair presentation of the facts.

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UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

SUMMER BOTANICAL MEETINGS

THE first of the joint summer meetings of the Botanical Society of America and the American Society of Plant Taxonomists was held at Acadia University, Wolfville, N. S., from August 18 to 20. Sixty-one members of the societies and guests were registered. The meetings were begun by a formal program in the Biology Building of the university on the evening of August 18, Dr. L. C. Petry, vice-president of the Botanical Society of America, presiding. Addresses were as follows: President F. W. Patterson, of Acadia University; the Honorable John A. McDonald, minister of agriculture of the provincial government; Professor Edmund W. Sinnott, president of the Botanical Society of America, and Dr. H. A. Gleason, president of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists.

After inspection of the botanical laboratories on Thursday morning, the Dominion Experimental Station at Kentville was visited under the guidance of Director W. S. Blair. A picnic lunch was served on the station grounds, and the party returned to Wolfville to study the dike lands adjacent to the Minas Basin shore. Particular attention was given to an area about which the dike has broken and in which typical salt marsh vegetation is rapidly being reestablished. This was followed by a visit to the sunken forest northeast of Grand Pré, where firmly rooted stumps are abundant on the tide flats at various levels down to 35 feet below high-tide line.

On Friday the party visited the barrens near Auburn and an extensive raised bog near Aylesford. From that point the route of the party lay through the finest section of the Cornwallis Valley apple district and over North Mountain to Hall's Harbor on the Bay of Fundy. After lunch there, the marine algae of the tide pools were studied under the guidance of Dr. Hugh Bell. Some members of the party then returned to Wolfville and spent the remainder of the day collecting fossil plants of lower Carboniferous age at Horton Bluff. The remainder collected seaside plants along the shore at Hall's Harbor and visited a quaking bog at the foot of North Mountain. No trips were scheduled for Saturday.

The local committee in charge of arrangements consisted of Mr. A. E. Roland, Dr. J. F. Hockey and Professors H. C. Perry, J. M. Bayne and Muriel V. Roscoe (*chairman*). The arrangements were well planned and all trips well managed.

The second joint field meeting was held at the Biological Station of the University of Michigan, Douglas Lake, Mich., from August 24 to 27. Registrations numbered thirty-one, but the attendance was much greater, due to the participation by various staff members and graduate students of the station and guests of members. A local committee, consisting of Professors John H. Ehlers (*chairman*), Frank C. Gates, Carl D. LaRue and George E. Nichols, was in charge of the field trips and camp routine. Tuesday afternoon was occupied with a boat trip on Douglas Lake, followed by a trip of inspection of the numerous laboratories. In the evening, Dr. George R. LaRue, director of the station, officially welcomed the group. Responses were made by Dr. H. A. Gleason and Dr. Karl M. Wiegand, representing the Botanical Society of America. The evening was concluded with an illustrated lecture on "The Biological Station and its Environs" by Dr. George R. LaRue. Wednesday trips were made to the shore of Lake Huron, the Straits of Mackinac, Ceeil Bay and Wilderness State Park. On Wednesday evening, Professor W. F. Ramsdell, of the School of Forestry and Conservation of the University of Michigan, addressed the group on "Land Utilization Research." Thursday was devoted to visits to bogs and marshes in the vicinity of Little Lake Sixteen, containing a highly sequestered and essentially undisturbed flora of great diversification. The address of the evening, by Mrs. Ynes Mexia, was entitled "Three Thousand Miles up the Amazon." On Friday morning the meetings were concluded with a trip to the jack-pine plains region.

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