

and to 0.2 per cent. HCl solution, however, had no digestive effect on these parasites. It is suggested that the digestive effect *in vitro* is due to the *bromelin*, the proteolytic enzyme present in pineapple, which however is destroyed by the action of gastric juice.

Our observations, therefore, do not support the sug-

gestion that fresh pineapple juice may be of value as an anthelmintic.

E. KUITUNEN-EKBAUM*

DEPARTMENT OF HYGIENE AND
PREVENTIVE MEDICINE,
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC WORKERS AT COLUMBUS

A MEETING of the American Association of Scientific Workers was held at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel at Columbus, Ohio, at 4:00 P.M. on December 30, 1939, in connection with the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Professor Kenneth V. Thimann occupied the chair. The general topic of the meeting was "Science and the Public." The first speaker was Mr. Watson Davis, editor of Science Service, who spoke briefly on the publicizing of science. The newspapers, he said, are the principal medium for the dissemination of science to the general public. In writing for the newspapers it is necessary to use an emotional approach tempered with intelligence. The science writers at this meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science wrote from 5,000 to 10,000 words each for the newspapers.

The next speaker was Dr. Julian Huxley, exchange lecturer from the British Association for the Advancement of Science. "Science and the Public" is a very broad subject, he said. After discussing the publicizing of science, he discoursed at some length on science and social relations. Man has mastered inanimate nature, but not human nature. We must get rid of the idea that the present state of society is a good one. At present we have no satisfactory machinery for co-ordination in society. Man must develop a social brain. Social science must be developed. Many scientists are opposed to social science, calling it pseudo-science. They have been impressed by the failure of the techniques of natural science when applied to social science. However, we should expect that in a totally different domain new techniques different from those used in the natural sciences will have to be developed. Totally new methods of measurement must be worked out. This is gradually being done in psychology, and it is to be expected that the same will be done in sociology. Already we have the measurement of public opinion by polls. All this takes time, but perhaps in a century politicians will be scientifically trained. Furthermore, an intellectual atmosphere suitable for the social sciences must be developed. This led him to a discussion of scientific humanism and fundamental human values.

The third speaker was Dr. Loring Andrews, of the Worldwide Broadcasting Foundation, who spoke on "Putting Science on the Air." Dr. Andrews has cooperated with the Boston-Cambridge Branch of the American Association of Scientific Workers in broadcasting science. Dr. Andrews discussed the interests and attitudes of the average radio listener and in particular the technique of putting science on the air. He emphasized the fact that a science broadcaster should be a master of the technique of radio broadcasting as well as have a thorough knowledge of science. The programs must be carefully prepared if they are to be successful. Many hours of work go into a fifteen-minute broadcast. He also discussed the various kinds of radio technique.

The last speaker was Professor Colston Warne, of Amherst College, who spoke on "The Relation of the Consumer Movement to Scientific Groups." Dr. Warne, who is president of Consumers Union, talked about the development of the consumer movement in the United States in the last decade, pointing out the difficulties the consumer had in making wise choices in purchasing because of the conflicting and frequently misleading claims made in advertising, etc. He also spoke of some of the present opposition to the consumer movement. He said that in the past the objectives of the consumer movement have been too narrowly conceived. He defined the objectives to be as follows:

- (1) Dissemination of knowledge among consumers of the quality of goods, prices, etc.
- (2) Securing of legislation in the interest of the consumer, such as food and drug laws.
- (3) Securing a bounty of goods. Thus far the decision as to whether manufacturing plants shall operate or close has been solely in the hands of the management of corporations. Thus plants often close when consumers need the goods they could produce. Consumers should have a voice in deciding when plants shall operate or close, that is, a voice in management.
- (4) Intelligent living in the twentieth century.

He said that scientific groups such as the American Association of Scientific Workers can aid in the movement.

ENOS E. WITMER

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