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### MEETING OF BOTANISTS IN CHICAGO

ACCORDING to a statement received from Dr. Scott V. Eaton, of the University of Chicago, there existed among botanists of the general Chicago region considerable sentiment in favor of holding an informal meeting during the Christmas holidays. Arrangements for such a gathering were made by the departments of botany of Northwestern University and the University of Chicago. The meeting was held at Chicago, on December 29 and 30. Announcements and programs were sent to the departments of botany or biology of the colleges and universities of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and eastern Nebraska.

Three sessions for the reading of invitation papers were held at the Chicago Academy of Sciences. The facilities provided by the academy were very much appreciated. On the morning of December 29, L. H. Tiffany was chairman of the program, and the speakers included Walter F. Loehwing, the State University of Iowa; Margery C. Carlson, Northwestern University; Neil E. Stevens, University of Illinois; Charles E. Olmsted, the University of Chicago, and O. C. Durham, Abbott Laboratories. The chairman on Thursday morning was Dr. John T. Buchholz, of the University of Illinois, and the speakers were Ralph E. Cleland, Indiana University; Leo R. Tehon, Illinois State Natural History Survey, and Ralph O. Freeland, Northwestern University. At the concluding session on Thursday afternoon John M. Beal, of the University of Chicago, presided, and those who took part were George S. Bryan, the University of Wisconsin; Kenneth E. Damann, Water Purification Division of Chicago, and Wendell R. Mullison, Purdue University.

The attendance at the sessions ranged from forty-five to seventy-four. The lateness of announcing the meeting and travel uncertainties, especially because of the threatened railroad strike, reduced the number of persons present. Also a number wrote that they could not attend because of their war teaching programs.

On Wednesday evening an informal dinner was held at the Webster Hotel with an attendance of fifty-three. Dr. Charles A. Shull, of the University of Chicago, was toastmaster, and after the dinner he called on several persons for brief after-dinner speeches.

The meeting was characterized by good fellowship and friendly visiting. All present seemed very glad of the opportunity of again attending a scientific meeting. It is hoped that even if the war has not

yet ended the national officers of the various botanical societies will find it possible to organize meetings, either national or regional, for the next Christmas holidays.

### BERMUDA BIOLOGICAL STATION FOR RESEARCH

THE annual meeting of the corporation and a meeting of the trustees of the Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Inc., were held in New York City on December 18.

Officers elected for 1944 were: *President*, Columbus Iselin; *Vice-president*, A. G. Huntsman; *Treasurer*, Ross G. Harrison; *Secretary*, John H. Welsh.

Trustees elected to the class retiring in 1947 were: C. P. Curtis, Jr., P. S. Galtsoff, E. N. Harvey, Columbus Iselin, Stanley Kemp and Daniel Merriman.

The main building and cottages which were leased to the U. S. Army Engineers as a temporary hospital were vacated in June on the completion of the permanent Base Hospital. Dr. Hilary B. Moore, acting as resident custodian, is now occupying the director's cottage and three of the others are rented. Books have been removed from storage and the library has been placed in order.

The former director, Dr. J. F. G. Wheeler, has left Bermuda to take up a new position as fisheries director for the Island of Mauritius. The period of his directorship extended from 1932 to 1941. During this time there were over two hundred investigators who made visits of some length at the station. Eighteen of these were from England, France, Canada and Belgium. There were 138 published contributions covering a wide range of subjects of biological and oceanographic interest. While the main financial support of the station for this period came from income on investments of the original Rockefeller Foundation grant, there was additional support for maintenance and operation from the Bermuda Government of approximately \$15,000. During the years 1937-41 the station also received \$10,000 through the Royal Society, London, in support of oceanographic investigations. This was in addition to furnishing the research vessel *Culver*.

During the past year there was a net gain of income over expenses amounting to \$10,368. Present total assets amount to \$304,936. Approximately one third of this is invested in the Bermuda property and the remainder in income-yielding securities.

The location of the station is one of the best in Bermuda in spite of military developments in that region, the buildings are in an excellent state of repair, and the vicinity of Bermuda still remains a uniquely favorable place for investigating the biology, physics and chemistry of the open North Atlantic, especially in deep water. It is the expectation of the trustees that the station will reopen as soon as the progress of the war allows.