

SCIENCE

VOL. LX

NOVEMBER 28, 1924

No. 1561

BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS

CONTENTS

<i>Biological Abstracts</i>	485
<i>American Association for the Advancement of Science:</i>	
<i>The Permanent Secretary's Annual Report</i>	489
<i>William A. Locy: PROFESSOR HENRY CREW and PROFESSOR FRANK R. LILLIE</i>	491
<i>Scientific Events:</i>	
<i>Railway Rates and The American Association; Endowment Funds and Grants of the Carnegie Corporation of New York; The Wilmer Foundation; The Elliot Medal for 1924; Barro Colorado Island Laboratory</i>	493
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	495
<i>University and Educational Notes</i>	498
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:</i>	
<i>A Misleading Designation: PROFESSOR HENRY B. WARD. Ultra-Violet Light and the Anti-Neuritic Vitamine: R. R. WILLIAMS. Stimulation of Spore Germination by CO₂: L. W. DURRELL. Fall of a Meteorite in Minnesota: WILLIAM O. BEAL and GEORGE A. THIEL</i>	498
<i>Scientific Books:</i>	
<i>Guyénot's L'Hérédité, Gates on Heredity and Eugenics and Coulter's Outline of Genetics: DR. C. B. DAVENPORT</i>	500
<i>Scientific Apparatus and Methods:</i>	
<i>The Investigation of Biological Stains in the Bureau of Chemistry: DR. JOSEPH A. AMBLER and WALTER C. HOLMES</i>	501
<i>Special Articles:</i>	
<i>Dislocation of the Eye and the Orientation of the Goldfish: J. FRANK PEARCY and THEODORE KOPANYI. The Decomposition of Salicylic Aldehyde by Soil Organisms: DR. WRIGHT A. GARDNER</i>	502
<i>The American Chemical Society:</i>	
<i>Section of the History of Chemistry: DR. LYMAN C. NEWELL</i>	503
<i>Science News</i>	x

SCIENCE: A Weekly Journal devoted to the Advancement of Science, edited by J. McKeen Cattell and published every Friday by

THE SCIENCE PRESS

Lancaster, Pa.

Garrison, N. Y.

New York City: Grand Central Terminal.

Annual Subscription, \$6.00. Single Copies, 15 Cts.

SCIENCE is the official organ of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Information regarding membership in the association may be secured from the office of the permanent secretary, in the Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

Entered as second-class matter July 18, 1923, at the Post Office at Lancaster, Pa., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

On November 26 of last year the secretary of the Union of American Biological Societies submitted to American biologists individually the report of the Joint Publications Committee of the Union and of the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council. This report¹ outlined a tentative plan for providing biologists with a comprehensive abstracting and indexing service. In sending this report the secretary made provision for an expression from biologists individually on the main issues involved—the plan itself and the individual support through subscriptions that it might expect if established. The secretary, Dr. I. F. Lewis, University of Virginia, has requested the Joint Publications Committee to study and report on the about 4,500 replies received. The following report is, therefore, submitted by the Joint Publications Committee.

Before reporting on the referendum, it will be well to recall briefly the events and considerations which led up to the proposal to develop a comprehensive biological abstracting service.

In 1921 a conference representing the American Society of Naturalists, American Society of Zoologists and Botanical Society of America considered the question of providing adequate organization facilities for geneticists, without at the same time adding to the already large number of independent biological societies and thereby increasing still more the difficulties of concerted effective effort in larger problems of importance to biologists generally. Following the suggestions of the conference, sections in genetics with common officers were created in the American Society of Zoologists and the Botanical Society of America. However, the conference recognized that with the inevitable continued diversification similar necessities would arise from time to time; also that important problems concerning biologists generally were already demanding attention. It was, therefore, suggested that representatives of the various national research biological societies discuss the advisability of establishing a union. The Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council was appealed to as a disinterested body to call a conference. Such a gathering was held at the Toronto meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1921 and participated in by representatives of nearly a score of societies. Out of this meeting grew a second request to the National

¹ SCIENCE, September 28, 1923, pp. 236-239.