

established as fact by impartial observers. Stories concerning monkeys and rats which form living chains to cross narrow bodies of water are unproven, but certain ants do perform this feat. Bumblebees do not buzz at the mouth of the nest in the early morning to awaken others, but rather to ventilate the dwelling. Scorpions do not sting themselves to death if encircled by live coals, but do

thrash about so violently that casual observers might thus interpret their struggles. Ants have been observed to extinguish the flame of a candle placed on their dwelling by bombarding the wick with their abdominal fluid. The many snake fables, concerning hypnotic gaze, milk snakes, hoop snakes, and whip snakes, are of course beyond the realm of fact.

Notes and News

MR. HOMER A. STEPHENS, President-elect of *The National Association of Biology Teachers*, has been granted a fellowship by the University of Wisconsin where he will pursue studies toward his doctorate.

OUR SECRETARY-TREASURER, MR. P. K. HOUDEK, of Robinson, Illinois, spent the summer working for the State Department of Public Health. Much of the time he was driving over the state visiting clubs and other organizations and assisting the various groups in working out programs of health lectures for the coming year.

THE ATLANTA SCIENCE CLUB of Atlanta, Georgia, has been accepted by the Executive Board as an affiliated local society of the *National Association of Biology Teachers*.

We hope to have more news of the activities and program of this new affiliate in an early issue of THE AMERICAN BIOLOGY TEACHER.

THE BIOLOGY SECTION OF THE ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE will meet at Urbana, Illinois, November 1, 1940, under the presidency of Madeline Dague.

The following program is announced:

- 9:00 Book Review: "High Schools and Sex Education."
Glenn V. Ramsey, Peoria High School.
- 9:30 "How to Make and Use Color Slides in Teaching."
J. B. MacHarg, Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, New York.
- 10:00 Address.
Professor G. W. Rosenlof, Teachers College, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.
- 10:30 "Adventures with Birds." (Lecture and motion pictures.)
Dr. Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., Instructor in Zoology, Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota.
- 12:15 Luncheon. "Lane Technical High School's New Charles E. Lang Formal Garden as a Biology and School Project"—Illustrated with enlarged photographs, drawings, and blueprints.
M. C. Lichtenwalter, Lane Technical High School, Chicago.
- 1:30 Business meeting.
- 2:00 "Vitamins, Their History and Value."
Dr. Frank B. Kirby, Director of Education, Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, Illinois.
- 2:30 "Reading and Reference Books for the Biology Library."
Lyle Bamber, Librarian, Biology Library, University of Illinois.
- 3:00 "Correct Approaches to the Study of Nature."
Rev. George M. Link, Field Naturalist, Pere Marquette State Park, Grafton, Illinois.

THE DELAWARE VALLEY BIOLOGISTS CLUB, organized last spring with the assistance of President Jeffers, gives promise of being a very active and helpful association. The officers elected by this group are as follows:

President: Mr. Clarence E. Feick, South Philadelphia Boys High School, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vice-President: Mr. B. Bartram Cadbury, Friends Select School, Philadelphia, Pa.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Janet P. Jamieson, 117 Maple Avenue, Bala-Cynwyd, Pa.

Executive Committee Members: Dr. Robert B. Gordon, State Teachers College, West Chester, Pa.; Mr. Charles E. Mohr, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.; Dr. Edward E. Wildman, Philadelphia, Pa.

Through the cooperation of the Committee of Biological Science Teaching, headed by Dr. Oscar Riddle, and our National Association, the Delaware Valley Biologists Club will undertake to enroll the biology teachers of the area in and around Philadelphia. Any of our members in this area who are not acquainted with this new local association are asked to get in touch with the Secretary.

THE NEW YORK ASSOCIATION OF BIOLOGY TEACHERS presents *Adventures in Biology*. The publication of this handbook of helps for biology teachers has been a project of the New York Association for some time. The booklet will be helpful to any biology teacher. The authors are to be congratulated on its preparation.

The price of the booklet is fifty cents. However, by special action of the executive committee of the New York Association it may be purchased by any member of *The National Association of Biology Teachers* for thirty-five cents, which is the price available to their own members.

Send your remittance with your order to Miss Estella R. Steiner, Corresponding Secretary, New York Association of Biology Teachers, Grover Cleveland High School, Ridgewood, New York,

with the notation that you are a member of our National Association.

DR. GEORGE W. JEFFERS, President of *The National Association of Biology Teachers*, has been elected president-elect of the Virginia Academy of Science. He has also been made a director of the American Science Teachers Association.

THE CHICAGO BIOLOGY ROUND TABLE held its first meeting of the school year on Friday evening, September 20, at the Chicago Woman's Club. Mr. Gerald Bench, newly appointed Director of Science and Visual Education for the Chicago Public Schools, formerly head of the biology department of Wells High School, spoke on the work of his department. His talk was illustrated with films. Mrs. Anna Kummer, Waller High School, led a discussion on *Weeds*. An interesting collection of plants classed as weeds was exhibited.

On October 5, the Round Table conducted a field trip to the Morton Arboretum located several miles west of Chicago.

The officers for last year have been reelected for the current year. They are:

Mr. Ildrem P. Daniel, Lake View High School, President.

Miss Thelma Jones, Bowen High School, Vice-President.

Miss Ruby Fremont, Calumet High School, Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. M. C. Lichtenwalter, Lane Technical High School, Corresponding Secretary.

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, published by *Science Service*, Washington, D. C., may now be obtained by members of *The National Association of Biology Teachers* at the special rate of \$3.00 per year instead of the usual rate of \$5.00, as the result of arrangements reported by President Jeffers. It is hoped that a large number of our members will take advantage of this opportunity to save two dollars on a very fine magazine.

SPENCER LENS COMPANY announces

that in order to provide facilities for the production of optical instruments and optical parts required by the National Defense Program it has let a contract for the construction of new buildings which will provide about 130,000 square feet of additional floor space. The new buildings will make use of the latest developments in heating, lighting, plant layout, flexibility for expansion and changes, and working conditions and facilities contributing to the welfare of employees. Orders for machinery and equipment have been placed, and it is planned to have the new unit in operation not later than February 1, 1941. Approximately one million and a quarter dollars will be expended in carrying through the current program.

THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON HUMAN HEREDITY has at its disposal certain funds for use in furthering studies in human inheritance. Qualified persons are invited to submit requests for grants where needed to initiate or to continue research in this field. Requests should be sent as soon as possible to any member of the committee, and should include a clear statement of the problem, results already achieved, if any, the approximate time required to finish the problem, the amount of money needed, and a statement as to how the money will be spent if granted.

The committee consists of Halbert L. Dunn, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C.; L. C. Dunn, Department of Zoology, Columbia University, New York City; K. S. Lashley, Department of Psychology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; George L. Streeter, Bureau of Embryology, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Baltimore, Md.; Sewall Wright, Department of Zoology, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.; and Laurence H. Snyder, *chairman*, Department of Zoology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

JOINT MEETING WITH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENCE AND MATHE- MATICS TEACHERS

On November 22 and 23, 1940, at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio, will be held the annual convention of the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers. By the approval of the executive board of *The National Association of Biology Teachers* we are cooperating in this meeting. The Greater Cleveland Biology Society will hold a joint meeting with the Biology section of the Central Association. *The National Association of Biology Teachers* will cooperate in other ways in the promotion of this important meeting for biologists.

The principal speakers on the joint program will be Dr. Visscher of Western Reserve University, and Dr. Williams of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. This part of the program has been arranged by Mr. Al. G. Grosche, Chairman, and Mr. John C. Mayfield, Secretary of the Division. The Greater Cleveland Biology Society will cooperate through the leadership of their president, Miss Nell C. Henry, in furnishing a group of teachers who will organize the discussion period growing out of the two papers presented. There will be other factors in the cooperation in this joint meeting.

All biology teachers within a reasonable distance of Cleveland are urged to attend this meeting which will be open to all members of the Central Association, The Greater Cleveland Biology Society, and *The National Association of Biology Teachers*. For details of the program, interested teachers may correspond with Mr. John C. Mayfield, The University of Chicago, or Miss Nell C. Henry, 732 East 105th St., Cleveland, Ohio.