CONTENTS

The Quantitative Study of Organic Reactions: Professor S. F. Agnew ............. 617
Bacteriology as a Non-Technical Course for Public Schools: Dr. H. W. Hill ........ 625
Teaching by the Lecture System: Dr. Norman A. Dubois ...................... 628
Kakichi Mitsukuri: President David Starr Jordan ......................... 630
The Western Excursion following the Winnipeg Meeting of the British Association: Dr. F. P. Gulliver ....... 632
Forest Products Investigation .................................................. 633
The American Association of Economic Entomologists ............................... 635
The Rockefeller Commission for the Eradication of the Bookworm Disease .......... 635
Scientific Notes and News ...................................................... 636
University and Educational News ............................................. 638
Discussion and Correspondence:—
A Reply to Mr. Percival Lowell: Professor F. R. Moulton. The Development of the Planetary Hypothesis: Professors T. C. Chamberlin and F. R. Moulton. An Association of American Chemical Research Laboratories: Professor M. A. Rosanoff. Family Records: Dr. C. B. Davenport ... 639
Scientific Books:—
The Mechanics of Biology: Professor Vernon L. Kellogg ............................ 649
Notes on Entomology: Dr. Nathan Banks .. 650
Special Articles:—
Societies and Academies:—
The Anthropological Society of Washington: John R. Swanton. The New York Section of the American Chemical Society: Dr. C. M. Joyce ........................................ 656

THE QUANTITATIVE STUDY OF ORGANIC REACTIONS

Before this body of chemists it is not necessary to call attention to the importance of many of the great researches in the field of so-called pure organic chemistry. The investigations of Liebig and Wohler and Fischer on uric acid derivatives, of Friedel and Kraft and others on the use of aluminium chloride, ferric chloride and zinc chloride in effecting many condensations; of Sandmeyer and Gatterman, Hantzsch, and Bamberger on the formation of diazo compounds and their derivatives; of Baeyer, Greene, Nietzki, Fischer and others on the formation of dyes; of Willstätter, Fietet, Koenigs, and Fischor on the alkaloids; of Wallach, Timmann, Semmler and Harries on the terpenes; of Fischer, Kiliani, Tollens, Bruyn, Wohl and Ruff on the sugars, and of Fischer, Abderhalden, Neuberg, Curtius, Kossel, Osborne and Chittenden on the proteid compounds—all of these great researches speak for themselves in their importance to pure science, technology, medicine and the biological branches.

However much the physical chemist may turn up his nose, or hold it, in the organic laboratory and call us pot-boilers and stink-producers and mere compound-makers; however much the clean-working analytical or inorganic chemist may rail at us because we do not, as a rule, collect and weigh our organic precipitates accurately to within 0.10 per cent., yet these same deluded col-

1 Address of the chairman of the Division of Organic Chemistry in Section C of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Baltimore, 1908.