

SCIENCE

VOL. 95

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1942

No. 2455

<i>The Golden Age of Botany</i> : DR. EDGAR N. TRANSEAU	53	<i>Special Articles</i> :	
<i>Evolution and Knowledge</i> : PROFESSOR WILLIAM E. RITTER	58	<i>The Endosperm as a Barrier to Interspecific Hybridization in Flowering Plants</i> : PROFESSOR D. C. COOPER and PROFESSOR R. A. BRINK, <i>On the Localization of Enzymes in Nerve Fibers</i> : DRS. D. NACHMANSOHN and H. B. STEINBACH	75
<i>Obituary</i> :		<i>Scientific Apparatus and Laboratory Methods</i> :	
<i>Alexander Lowy</i> : DR. ALEXANDER SILVERMAN.		<i>A Color Reaction for Dehydroascorbic Acid Useful in the Determination of Vitamin C</i> : PROFESSOR JOSEPH H. ROE and CARL A. KUETHER.	
<i>Orin F. Stafford</i> : DR. F. L. SHINN. <i>Recent Deaths</i>	62	<i>Binding of Sulfonamides by Plasma Proteins</i> : DR. BERNARD D. DAVIS	77
<i>Scientific Events</i> :		<i>Science News</i>	8
<i>War Work of the Canadian Research Council; The Ella Sachs Plotz Foundation for the Advancement of Scientific Investigations; The Nutrition Foundation, Inc.; The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis; Presentation to Wilfred Hudson Osgood; Award of the Davy Medal of the Royal Society to Dr. Dakin</i>	63		
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	66		
<i>Discussion</i> :			
<i>Continental Drift and Plant Distribution</i> : DR. DOUGLAS H. CAMPBELL. <i>Sclerotium Bataticola, A Cause of Damping-off in Seedling Conifers</i> : SPENCER H. DAVIS, JR. <i>Physics in Nazi Germany</i> : WM. MAYO VENABLE. <i>A Scientist at Peace and at War Four Hundred Years Ago</i> : PROFESSOR M. F. ASHLEY MONTAGU	69		
<i>Scientific Books</i> :			
<i>The Earth</i> : PROFESSOR KIRTLEY F. MATHER.			
<i>Banckes's Herbal</i> : DR. JOHN HENDLEY BARNHART	71		
<i>Reports</i> :			
<i>Scientific Work of the Carnegie Institution of Washington</i>	73		

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.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF BOTANY¹

By Dr. EDGAR N. TRANSEAU

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

THOSE of us who were so fortunate as to enter the field of botany about the beginning of the century have witnessed the period of its greatest growth and differentiation. In no other country and at no other time have there been so many undergraduate students of botany, so many graduate students and so many botanists employed in educational and research institutions. We vividly recall that this 40-year period began just after the Spanish-American war when America took over the Philippine Islands. We have likewise had a part in all the educational phe-

¹ Address of the retiring president of the Botanical Society of America, delivered at Dallas, Texas, on December 29, 1941.

nomena before, during and after the first World War. The period closes as World War II is thrust upon us.

This time the war is not "to make the world safe for democracy," but to keep democracy from being crushed against the wall at its back. After the first world war came the collapse of European credits and subsequently a variety of social revolutions that have ended in ruthless dictatorships. The state-supported Continental universities were first impoverished, then regulated and finally regimented or liquidated. Because of declining financial aid, teaching and research in botany have been possible only to men of independent means, and in many of the Continental

Science

95 (2455)

Science **95** (2455), 53-78.

ARTICLE TOOLS

<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/95/2455.citation>

PERMISSIONS

<http://www.sciencemag.org/help/reprints-and-permissions>

Use of this article is subject to the [Terms of Service](#)

Science (print ISSN 0036-8075; online ISSN 1095-9203) is published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005. 2017 © The Authors, some rights reserved; exclusive licensee American Association for the Advancement of Science. No claim to original U.S. Government Works. The title *Science* is a registered trademark of AAAS.