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## MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY DEDICATION EXERCISES,

JULY 3, 1925

THE new building and endowment of the Marine Biological Laboratory were formally dedicated to the service of science on Friday, July 3, at 2 P. M. in the presence of a representative gathering of biologists and guests. More than one hundred institutions of higher learning in America appointed official delegates, and others were represented unofficially by workers in Woods Hole. Cabled or written greetings were received from marine laboratories in England, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, France and Italy. The occasion is of interest to the scientific public, and more especially to biologists, because the laboratory by its organization and use is the possession of the biologists of America. It is attached to no one institution or section of the country but seeks to serve all.

The Honorable Charles R. Crane, president of the board of trustees of the laboratory, was the presiding officer. In his opening remarks he alluded to the spirit of the laboratory which he characterized as its most unique possession and of priceless worth. Mr. Crane continued:

Even though not personally associated with the vital processes of the laboratory it has been the greatest possible privilege to play the part of a simple spectator in watching the growth of the wonderful spirit of cooperation in the work of biological research.

Some years ago the then business manager of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research invited me to spend the evening with him and try to help him understand the nature and conditions of the spirit of the Marine Biological Laboratory. "For," said he, "we all recognize that the spirit is there. It is the rarest thing that we know of, and we have many discussions as to its nature and the conditions under which it has come forth." He then asked me if I had any theory about it. I answered that the essential thing, as it seemed to me, was that it was the purest expression of the highest form of democracy—a form of Soviet directed by the highest rather than the lowest motives.

Many years ago I was associated with a Society for Psychical Research. I followed its processes with a great deal of interest, and although its work was not of so exact and definite a nature as the work of the laboratory here, there seemed to be certain conclusions arrived at regarding the haunts and habits of spirits. One definite conclusion was that spirits feel most at home and make larger demonstrations of their presence in old buildings and among old friends. They are very con-

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