

members of the local committee on exhibitions, of which Professor Harold A. Fales, of Columbia University, was chairman. Dr. Raymond H. Wallace, of Columbia University, was specially helpful in arranging for the installation of some of the exhibits. As to the commercial exhibits, this was the largest and most successful exhibition ever held by the association, being limited only by the extent of the available space. All the space was taken up early in the fall and many more exhibits might have been secured had it been possible to accommodate them. A very instructive and valuable exhibit in the realm of pure science was shown under the auspices of the American Society of Parasitologists, arranged by Dr. Benjamin Schwartz, of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry. Many recent and important developments in parasitology were clearly set forth and these exhibits attracted much attention. A new form of automatically irrigated pot, for plant-physiological and horticultural investigations, was shown by Dr. J. D. Wilson, of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster, and the laboratory of plant physiology of the Johns Hopkins University showed improved technique for the demonstration of the classical Askenasy experiment on the transmission of traction through liquid "wires."

A list of the commercial exhibitors, to whom the great success of the New York exhibition was due, is given below. Their very helpful cooperation is greatly appreciated. An A denotes that the exhibitor thus designated also had advertising space in the general program.

Bausch and Lomb Optical Co. (A), Rochester, N. Y.  
 Christian Becker, Inc., New York, N. Y.  
 James G. Biddle, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 P. Blakiston's Son and Co., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Cambridge Instrument Co., Inc. (A), New York, N. Y.  
 Central Scientific Co., Chicago, Ill.  
 Chemical Catalog Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.  
 Clay-Adams Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.  
 Denoyer-Geppert Co., Chicago, Ill.  
 Eimer and Amend, New York, N. Y.  
 H. Eisenstein & Co., Inc. (A), New York, N. Y.  
 Empire Laboratory Supply Co., Inc. (A), New York, N. Y.  
 Fiala Outfits, Inc., New York, N. Y.  
 General Biological Supply House (A), Chicago, Ill.  
 General Radio Co., Cambridge, Mass.  
 Hoke, Inc., New York, N. Y.  
 Henry Holt and Company (A), New York, N. Y.  
 Kny-Scheerer Corporation of America (A), New York, N. Y.  
 LaMotte Chemical Products Co., Baltimore, Md.  
 Leeds and Northrup Company, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 E. Leitz, Inc. (A), New York, N. Y.  
 McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc. (A), New York, N. Y.  
 The Matheson Co., North Bergen, N. J.  
 New York Biological Supply Co., New York, N. Y.

Oxford University Press, New York, N. Y.  
 Spencer Lens Co., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 The Thermal Syndicate, Ltd. (A), Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Thermo-Electric Co., Irvington, N. J.  
 Triarch Botanical Products (A), Philadelphia, Pa.  
 University of Chicago Press (A), Chicago, Ill.  
 D. Van Nostrand Co., New York, N. Y.  
 Victor Talking Machine Co. (A), Camden, N. J.  
 W. M. Welch Scientific Company (A), Chicago, Ill.  
 Weston Electrical Instrument Corporation, Newark, N. J.  
 Carl Zeiss, Inc. (A), New York, N. Y.

#### REDUCED RAILWAY RATES AND REGISTRATION FEES

Reduced railway rates, on the certificate plan, were available for all who attended this meeting, whether members of the association or not, as has been true in recent years, the reduced round-trip fare being one and one half times the regular one-way fare. The arrangement for reduced fares was applicable on practically all railways of the United States and Canada and it resulted in a very great saving to the individuals who took advantage of it. This constitutes a very tangible service accomplished each year by the association for its members and for the members of the many organizations meeting with it. Each person who registered received the official badge and a free copy of the general program and had the privilege of having a railway certificate validated.

A registration fee of two dollars was assessed for this meeting, reduced to one dollar, however, for registrants who presented cards of enrolment in the association for 1929. These contributions from those who registered were added to the fund from which the association's share of the expenses were to be met, with the result that the actual financial deficit for this meeting promises to be much less than ever before. This was the first meeting at which association members in good standing were asked to contribute toward the extra expenses, although non-members have paid registration fees at several recent meetings. Reports from the registration clerks indicate that there were among those who registered some who apparently felt that this contribution of one or two dollars was too much for an individual to give toward the costs of the meeting at which he was in attendance, but that feeling may have been only a momentary reaction in many instances, and we are sure that some members in good standing were glad to contribute the full registration fee, not asking for the reduction. The collection of registration fees seems to be the only feasible way by which our annual meetings may approach being self-supporting and such fees are now the general rule for conventions such as those with which we are dealing. By this means a considerable part of the extra costs of the meeting is equally apportioned among those who are benefited, the registration fee being considered as a form of contribution or

tax to support this work of the association, which seems to be a fair and just arrangement.

From the financial standpoint the plan adopted for the fifth New York meeting proved very satisfactory, as has been said, and a similar plan will be required for future meetings unless the general work of the association is to be greatly curtailed or unless some better way may be devised by which association funds for the annual meeting may be secured. The permanent secretary will be glad to receive suggestions on this very important question. It should be noted that the fund raised locally by subscription is applicable to cover only a part of the expense of the meeting and that practically all the meeting expense contracted for by the association's Washington office has to be met from the association's own current funds. These consist annually of: (1) two dollars of each payment of annual dues; (2) about one dollar from the income of each of the life-membership endowments of living life members; (3) five dollars from each of the few entrance fees collected from new members who are not members of affiliated organizations; (4) a few much appreciated gifts for current expenses made by members from time to time, and (5) the income from the annual meeting. This last item includes the five-dollar associate fees paid for the meeting (of which there are never many), the net income from the sale of advertising space in the general program and the registration fees. There may sometimes be a small additional net income from the exhibition, but that has not thus far been realized and it can never be very significant, for the income from the exhibition should generally be spent on the exhibition itself. It seems probable that the New York exhibition may show some net income when all accounts have been met; of that we are not yet certain, however.

#### THE SIXTH AWARD OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION PRIZE

The American Association prize of \$1,000 is awarded annually to the author of a notable contribution to the advancement of science given at the annual meeting. The funds for the prize are generously supplied by a member who does not wish his name made public. The rules for the prize award were published in *SCIENCE* for November 25, 1928, and in the general program of the fifth New York meeting. Nominations for the New York prize were received from the secretaries of the sections and societies, as in previous years, and the award was made by the committee on prize award. It was announced through the association news service on Wednesday, the last day of the meeting.

The winner of the prize this year is Dr. Oliver Kamm, of the research laboratories of Parke, Davis and Company, Detroit, Michigan, for his paper on "Hormones from the Pituitary Gland," presented in

the symposium on "Recent Developments in the Chemistry of Naturally Occurring Remedial Agents," at a joint session of Section C (Chemistry) and Section N (Medical Sciences) held at Columbia University on the afternoon of Thursday, December 27. The following abstract of Dr. Kamm's paper has been contributed by him. It represents a continuation and a successful outcome of studies upon which he has been engaged for some time. Other papers on this subject by Dr. Kamm have been published as follows: *SCIENCE*, 67: 199 (1928); *Jour. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 50: 573 (1928). His name has been in the literature of organic chemistry since 1912 and he has been very productive in research. He is the author of a well-known text-book on "Qualitative Organic Analyses" (John Wiley and Sons, 1923, 1925, 1928).

#### "Hormones from the Pituitary Gland" (Abstract)

Our bodies contain at least twelve recognized endocrine (internally secreting) glands, which elaborate specific active principles or hormones. These hormones are catalysts that control the intricate chemical reactions of the living body. It has been supposed that each of these endocrine glands was so highly specialized that it could produce one and only one hormone, but the work here reported demonstrates the presence of two hormones from the pituitary gland.

The extract of the posterior lobe of this gland has been in use by physicians for about twenty years and it has been known for some time that such an extract has three distinct actions: (a) It raises the blood pressure. (b) It contracts the pregnant uterus. (c) It controls excessive output of water by the kidneys. Medical scientists have speculated as to whether these different actions were all produced by one single substance or whether, on the other hand, several substances were present, each accounting for one form of activity.

Although very little was known about the chemical nature of the active principles involved, a series of specially devised dialysis experiments made it possible for the author to predict in a fairly accurate manner what the molecular weight of the as yet unknown substance would be when discovered. This provided a good working basis for a long series of fractionation experiments and led finally to the actual separation and isolation of the two hormones, alpha hypophamine and beta hypophamine.

The alpha hormone was found to be the substance useful in childbirth, while the beta hormone was found to possess the property of raising the blood pressure. The paper here abstracted shows conclusively that the beta hormone, in addition to its pressor action, also has the power of controlling excessive output of

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