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OF SCIENCE



VOLUME EIGHT, 1940

PAPERS PRESENTED AT EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

April 19 and 20, 1940

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our Academy, with a membership of five hundred forty-four, is now entering its ninth year since its reorganization. The organization serves as an agency by which those in Minnesota who are interested in the sciences may, through a variety of activities, promote the welfare of the community. Not the least of these activities are the meetings when ideas may be exchanged and acquaintances made which aid in cooperation. The encouragement of members of the Junior Academy is an important objective and at the first council meeting of the year, Professor E. T. Tufte of St. Olaf College, was appointed the representative of the Senior Academy in sponsoring and organizing various junior groups.

This year marks a step in the history of the Academy in that a section for the social scientists will be inaugurated. This section is organized through the initiative and efforts of President Charles J. Turk of Macalester College and will present its first program at the 1941 meeting at the College of St. Catherine.

The summer meeting was held on September 21 at the Fruit Breeding Farm of the University near Excelsior. Professor W. H. Alderman and A. N. Wilcox were our hosts. Prof. Alderman described the history and contributions of the farm. Dr. Franklin B. Hanley of the Department of Geology of the University described the geology of the Minnetonka area in which the farm is located. The day was ideal and the program and picnic were enjoyed by all.

On December third the Academy sponsored a lecture by J. Stanwell Fletcher on the experiences of himself and wife in the north central part of British Columbia. The lecture was illustrated by slides and motion pictures. Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher lived for two years in a section remote from civilization and have contributed much to our knowledge of the natural history of the territory.

The next annual meeting will be held April 25-26 at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul. Plans have been made by the College and the Program Chairman which will insure a pleasant and profitable occasion.

The Committee on Preservation of Natural Conditions, with the aid of Dr. William S. Cooper, has been active during the year in obtaining funds for the purchase of parcels of land in the Cedar Creek area. The Academy now has purchased, or made arrangements for the acquisition of, important parts of this area. The contributions of Dr. J. Anna Norris and those of other members and friends of the Academy toward the project are gratefully acknowledged. With the central tract of eighty acres which Mrs. A. D. Cornica has so generously agreed to give to the Academy, we shall have preserved a unique wilderness area, with its variety of forest

types and plant and animal life. The preservation of this sylvan area with its winding creek, its deer and beaver within thirty miles of a metropolitan district, may be cited as one project in which the Academy has been of distinct service to the community.

Membership in the Academy is open to all, professional scientists and all others who subscribe to the objectives of the organization. A larger number of sustaining members and of patrons would enable the Academy to be more effective. During the year Dr. J. Anna Norris and Mrs. Elizabeth P. Palmer were nominated as patron members.

Finally, your retiring president wishes to express his appreciation of the cooperation during the past year of the officers and members of the organization.

J. W. BUCHTA, *President*