

NEWS AND NOTES.

At the May meeting of the Ohio State University Scientific Society the following officers were elected:

President—JAMES R. WITHROW.
Vice President—DANA J. DEMOREST.
Secretary—RAYMOND J. SEYMOUR.
Treasurer—FREDERICK H. KRECKER.

Charles S. Prosser, a member of the editorial board of this Journal and head of the Department of Geology, Ohio State University, died suddenly on September 11, 1916. The cause of his death is unknown but was probably due to some unexplained accident.

William R. Lazenby, head of the Department of Forestry, Ohio State University, and an active supporter of the Ohio Academy of Science and of this Journal died September 15, 1916.

THE LIFE OF INLAND WATERS, an elementary textbook of fresh-water biology for American students, by James G. Needham and J. T. Lloyd, of Cornell University, has been recently published by the Comstock Publishing Company, Ithaca, New York. The price of the volume is \$3.00.

This work, which is a well printed and illustrated book of 438 pages, will be a valuable addition to the texts and reference books available for students in the Aquatic Biology Courses of Summer Schools and Laboratories. It discusses the nature of the aquatic environment, the aquatic organisms and societies, both plant and animal, and contains practical suggestions as to the economic uses to which our swamps and inland waters may be put. The subject material is well selected and the book should do much in stimulating an interest in the life of fresh-waters and the study, protection, and utility of our aquatic resources.

J. H. S.

Two new textbooks of General Botany have recently been issued. The one, "Fundamentals of Botany," by C. Stewart Gager, published by P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia, is a book of 640 pages, which presents the general subject of Botany from a somewhat new and very interesting point of view.

The other, "A Textbook of Botany for Colleges," by Wm. F. Ganong, published by the MacMillan Company, New York, consists of two parts, the first part alone being issued at the present time. This consists of 390 pages devoted to Morphology and Physiology. The second part which is to deal with a description of the groups of plants will appear later.

This text also presents the subject of general botany from a distinctive point of view, each section giving the essential morphology followed by the physiology of the tissues and organs involved.

These two books occupy a field which has received little attention by American botanists, namely, the preparation of suitable texts for the general introductory courses of botany given in the numerous colleges and advanced normal schools. A text presenting a science to a freshman or sophomore college student must evidently present the subject from a different point of view than one prepared for university students. Heretofore, most of the available English texts were of entirely too advanced a nature to be satisfactorily used in introductory classes. The present texts are a valuable addition to botanical pedagogics, whether one can agree entirely with the method of presentation or not.

J. H. S.