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ORIGIN OF THE NATURAL SCIENCE SECTIONS OF THE OHIO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE^{1, 2}

RALPH W. DEXTER

Kent State University, Kent, Ohio

ABSTRACT

The Ohio Academy of Science was organized 31 December 1891 and was incorporated 12 March 1892, with 59 charter members. In the first decade, plans were developed for a Natural History Survey and a Topographic Survey of Ohio. In 1908, provision was made for separate sections of the Academy and, the following year, the first three—Zoology, Botany, and Geology—were created. A selected list of members active in these three sections is given for the first three decades.

The formation of the Ohio Academy of Science was suggested at a meeting of the Ohio State University Biological Club held in Columbus on 3 November 1891. The President, William R. Lazenby, made the original suggestion and took the lead in carrying it through. With Lazenby as chairman, and with D. S. Kellicott and W. A. Kellerman as members, a committee was appointed to call an organizational meeting which was held on 31 December 1891. A. M. Bleile was elected chairman of the meeting, Lazenby was elected secretary, and a committee consisting of Kellerman, E. W. Claypole (Buchtel College, Akron), and Henry Snyder (Miami University, Oxford) was chosen to prepare a constitution and set of by-laws. The first set of officers for the Academy was as follows: Claypole, president; A. A. Wright (Oberlin College) and Ellen E. Smith (Lake Erie Seminary, Painesville, now Lake Erie College), vice presidents; Lazenby, secretary; and A. D. Selby, treasurer.

A total of 26 papers (6 in zoology, 7 in botany, and one in geology) had been submitted for this organizational meeting. Ten of these were selected for reading to the group while the committees were at work. The Ohio State Academy of Science, as it was then named, was thus created on the last day of 1891. A certificate of incorporation was acquired on 12 March 1892, with 59 charter members. Beginning in 1904, the printed program shortened the title to the "Ohio Academy of Science" and, in 1912, the Annual Reports did likewise. Two years later the name was officially changed to the Ohio Academy of Science.

The first meeting of the Academy was a summer field meeting held at Buchtel College (now Akron University) in the city of Akron and environs, 3-4 June 1892. This was sponsored by the Akron Scientific Club under the guidance of Prof. Claypole and set the pattern for future summer meetings. Stress was given to group visits to outstanding natural features of the area and to the collecting of plants, shells and other animals, rocks, and minerals. The last summer field meeting was held in 1905, after which time field trips were held only in connection with the annual meetings. An account of these early summer field meetings has already been published (Dexter, 1960).

¹This paper, prepared by the Academy Historian, is based upon his reports to the Sections of Zoology, Plant Sciences, and Geology at recent annual meetings of the Ohio Academy of Science.

²Manuscript received July 21, 1965.

At the second summer field meeting, which met at Logan, plans were discussed for a Natural History Survey. W. A. Kellerman, chairman, F. M. Webster, and E. W. Claypole were appointed as a committee to investigate the possibility of organizing such a survey. The development of the survey and its relation to the conservation program of the Academy throughout 70 years, including the eventual creation of a Section of Conservation, has also been traced in some detail (Dexter, 1962).

At the first regular annual meeting, held on the campus of The Ohio State University 29-30 December 1892, 30 person attended and presented a total of 37 papers (14 in botany, 9 in zoology, and 4 in geology). This ratio continued, for the most part, over a period of years. The first presidential address was given by Dr. Edward W. Claypole, of Buchtel College, and was entitled, "The Devonian of Ohio: a Period in the Making of Our State." Prof. Frederick Wright of Oberlin College was made chairman of a committee to identify and investigate glacial boulders in the State of Ohio. Arrangements were made at this meeting to publish suitable papers and abstracts in the technical series of the *Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin* and in the *Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History*. Later, the *Ohio Naturalist* became the official publication (1904), and was subsequently renamed the *Ohio Journal of Science* (1915).

At the second annual meeting, also held in Columbus, a recommendation was passed to establish a Natural History Survey governed by a board of three directors. The presidential address that year was given by Dr. Edward Orton, who spoke on "The Relation of the Ohio Geology to Its Water Supply." At the third annual meeting, the presidential address was given by F. M. Webster of The Ohio State University on the "Insect Fauna of Ohio with Reference to Its Origin and Development."

When the fourth annual meeting was held in Cincinnati in 1895, papers were grouped for the first time according to the field of interest (botany, zoology, geology, general). While this practice was not followed consistently in subsequent years, there was often some kind of natural grouping of papers. The presidential address that year was given by Prof. D. S. Kellicott on "The Odonata of Ohio." At the fifth annual meeting, following the presidential address of Prof. A. A. Wright on "A Topographic Survey of Ohio," attention was called to the need for making a topographic survey of Ohio. A committee of three was appointed to inaugurate such a survey in cooperation with the U. S. Geological Survey. The bill which was drafted for that purpose passed the Senate in 1898, but it did not get out of the House finance committee. In 1900, the bill was finally passed by the State Legislature and provided for the topographic survey to begin in 1901. This and the creation of a Natural History Survey were regarded as the most important accomplishments of the Academy up to that date.

At the eighth annual meeting, held in Cleveland in 1899, those attending were separated for the first time. Papers on botany (total of 25) were given a separate and concurrent section in the afternoon. During the thirteenth annual meeting, also held in Cleveland (1904), L. B. Walton suggested that a program committee be established, with five representatives, one from each of the fields of zoology, botany, geology and physiography, anthropology, and the combined field of chemistry, physics, and mathematics. The first of such committees was appointed with the following representatives: zoology—L. B. Walton (Kenyon College, Gambier); botany—F. O. Grover (Oberlin College); geology and physiography—L. G. Westgate (Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware); anthropology—J. H. Todd, (College of Wooster); and chemistry, physics, mathematics—G. B. Halsted (Kenyon College).

When the seventeenth meeting was held in 1908 at Denison University, the program was informally divided during the afternoon session into two sections—one for botany and one for geology. This became the forerunner for sectional meetings. In the new constitution drafted that year, Article VII provided for

formal sections for the first time as follows: "Members not less than 15 in number may by special permission of the Academy unite to form a section for the investigation of any branch of science. Each section shall bear the name of the science which it represents." At the next annual meeting, held at Ohio Wesleyan University in 1909, three sections were established, and a vice president chosen for each as follows: Zoology—M. M. Metcalf (Oberlin College); Botany—Bruce Fink (Miami University, Oxford); Geology—G. D. Hubbard (The Ohio State University, Columbus).

These sections devoted to the natural sciences have continued much the same to the present day. In addition to stimulating interest and action in the realm of conservation, as previously mentioned, these sections also took a leading part in organizing a program of science education. Steps in promoting science education in public schools, the organization of a Junior Academy of Science, and a Section of Science Education have already been outlined (Dexter, 1961).

At the 54th annual meeting held at The Ohio State University (1944), the Section of Botany changed its name to the Section of Plant Sciences. At the 62nd annual meeting held at the same place in 1953, a Subsection on Genetics was created under the joint sponsorship of the Sections of Zoology and Plant Sciences. After successful operation as a subsection for six years, the group attained the status of an independent Section of Genetics in 1960. In 1956, the Ohio Flora Project was developed by the Ohio Flora Committee, which had been active for several years. The project received a grant of \$12,000 from the National Science Foundation, which financed the first three years of this project. Dr. E. Lucy Braun was chairman of the committee and prepared the first publication of the Ohio Flora Project entitled *Woody Plants of Ohio*, published in 1961.

The Sections of Zoology, Plant Sciences, and Geology have been among the most active and best-supported sections of the Academy since they were first organized. Many of the officers and committee members have been chosen from these groups. Many presidential addresses, special lectures, and symposia have been presented to the Academy under the auspices of these sections; and the great bulk of research papers given over the years since the Academy was founded have been contributed from these fields.

Following is a selected list of natural scientists who were especially active in the Ohio Academy of Science during its first three decades, named in sequence as they became prominent in the Academy program. It will be noted that many of them were active in more than one science. Some of them continued to be active for a long period of time, but they are listed only in the decade when they first became prominent. Institutions at which they were affiliated are given by the following abbreviations:

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| A.E.S.C.—Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbus, Ohio | O.M.I.—Ohio Mechanics Institute, Cincinnati, Ohio |
| A.E.S.W.—Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio | O.S.U.—Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio |
| B.C.—Buchtel College (now Akron University), Akron, Ohio | O.W.U.—Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio |
| B.W.—Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio | S.H.S.—Sandusky High School, Sandusky, Ohio |
| C.H.S.—Columbus High School, Columbus, Ohio | S.H.S.D.—Steele High School, Dayton, Ohio |
| C.M.—Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania | U.C.—University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio |
| C.W.—College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio | U.M.—University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn. |
| D.U.—Denison University, Granville, Ohio | U.T.—University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio |
| H.C.—Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio | U.W.V.—University of West Virginia, Morgantown, W. Va. |
| K.C.—Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio | W.C.—Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio |
| M.C.—Mt. Union College, Alliance, Ohio | W.R.U.—Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio |
| M.U.—Miami University, Oxford, Ohio | |
| O.C.—Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio | |

FIRST DECADE (1891-1900)

- Zoology:* E. W. Claypole, B.C.; D. S. Kellicott, O.S.U.; H. C. Oberholser, E. W. Vickers, Victor Sterki, C.M.; Lynds Jones, O.C.; F. W. Webster, A.E.S.C.; J. S. Hine, O.S.U.; Herbert Osborn, O.S.U.; R. C. Osburn, O.S.U.; E. L. Moseley, S.H.S.; Joshua Lindahl.
- Botany:* W. A. Kellerman, O.S.U.; W. R. Lazenby, O.S.U.; E. W. Claypole, B.C.; Freda Detmers, A.E.S.C.; W. G. Tight, D.U.; G. H. Colton, H.C.; F. L. Stevens, O.S.U.; A. D. Selby, C.H.S.; E. L. Moseley, S.H.S.; J. H. Schaffner, O.S.U.; Edo Claassen.
- Geology:* E. W. Claypole, B.C.; G. H. Colton, H.C.; G. F. Wright, O.C.; A. A. Wright, O.C.; G. P. Grimsley, O.S.U.; W. G. Tight, D.U.; Seth Hays, Edward Orton, O.S.U.; Gerard Fowke, E. L. Moseley, S.H.S.; Edo Claassen, J. A. Bownocker, O.S.U.; William Clark, J. H. Todd, C.W.; C. S. Prossner, O.S.U.

SECOND DECADE (1901-1910)

- Zoology:* F. L. Landacre, O.S.U.; C. J. Herrick, D.U.; E. L. Rice, O.W.U.; L. B. Walton, K.C.; F. H. Herrick, W.R.U.; A. F. Burgess, A.E.S.W.; S. R. Williams, M.U.; F. C. Waite, W.R.U.; M. M. Metcalf, O.C.; R. A. Budington, O.C.
- Botany:* O. E. Jennings, C.M.; T. A. Bonser, R. F. Griggs, O.S.U.; F. O. Grover, O.C.; Bruce Fink, M.U.; G. D. Smith, M. E. Stickney, D.U.; Alfred Dachnowski, O.S.U.
- Geology:* Herman Herzer, W. C. Mills, O.S.U.; Frank Carney, D.U.; G. D. Hubbard, O.S.U.; Joshua Lindahl, L. G. Westgate, O.W.U.; E. B. Branson, O.C.; C. R. Scheffel, U.W.V.; K. F. Mather, D.U.; W. C. Morse, O.S.U.; M. M. Fenneman, U.C.; W. M. Gregory, A. F. Foerste, S.H.S.D.; G. F. Lamb, M.C.

THIRD DECADE (1911-1920)

- Zoology:* W. M. Barrows, O.S.U.; C. L. Turner, O.W.U.; W. J. Kostir, O.S.U.; F. H. Kreckler, O.S.U.; C. L. Metcalf, O.S.U.; R. C. Baker, O.S.U.; T. H. Parks, O.S.U.
- Botany:* E. L. Fullmer, B.W.; F. B. H. Brown, W. G. Stover, O.S.U.; P. B. Sears, O.S.U.; E. N. Transeau, O.S.U.; A. E. Waller, O.S.U.; E. L. Braun, U.C.; H. C. Sampson, O.S.U.; H. H. M. Bowman, U.T.
- Geology:* C. G. Shatzer, W. C.; C. R. Miller, T. M. Hills, O.S.U.; D. D. Condit, C. G. Mark, O.S.U.; D. J. Tight, G. M. Austin, C. R. Stauffer, U.M.; W. H. Shideler, M.U.; E. P. Rothrock, P.H. Cary, W. G. Burroughs, C. P. Fox, W. N. Thayer, O.M.I.; W. H. Bucher, U.C.; Wilber Stout, O.S.U.; W. N. Speckman, B.W.; W. M. Tucker, J. E. Hyde, W.R.U.

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