

- sciences, their general import and unification of present knowledge concerning them. A general introduction to science and to one view of philosophy).
- The Ways of Planets, by M. E. Martin. (Discusses in a simple, informal manner the origin, position and characteristics of the various planets).
- The Solar System—A Study of Recent Observations, by C. L. Poor. ("Not too obtruse, thoroughly entertaining and timely"—Nation).
- Darwinism and Human Life, by J. A. Thomson. ("Authoritative, interesting and easily comprehended statement of the history and present status of evolution"—A.L.A.)
- The Origin and Nature of Life, by B. Moore. (Home University Series. Clear and concise statement of the problem from the chemical point of view"—A.L.A.)
- College Zoology, by R. W. Hegner. (An excellent text designed for beginning college students).
- Agriculture, by W. Somerville. (Makes the results of laboratory work at the university accessible to the practical farmer).

MEETINGS OF THE BOTANICAL BRANCH.

December 6th, 1913, at the home of Mr. R. B. Whyte, the following members being present: R. B. Whyte, Dr. M. O. Malte, G. H. Clark, L. H. Newman, J. M. Macoun, N. Criddle, W. T. Macoun, C. J. Tulley, A. E. Attwood and J. R. Fryer.

In response to the call for botanical specimens from members Mr. Criddle exhibited an interesting specimen of the genus *Neslia* (Ball Mustard) and one of the genus *Setaria* (Foxtail Grass), on the latter of which was an abnormal foliaceous development of the bracts. Mr. Newman exhibited a sample of wheat which took the world's prize at Tulsa, Oklahoma, in October, 1913. Mr. W. T. Macoun showed a couple of Peli nuts which were characterized by an exceedingly hard shell. They were somewhat larger than ordinary nutmegs and more angular in shape.

Dr. M. O. Malte spoke on "Some Results of the Summer's Work in Botany" and dealt especially with the species *Mentha*, *Viola* and *Juncus*. Specimens of true *Mentha arvensis* L., collected by him in Nova Scotia, were shown and the statement made that on account of the characters of the calyx the true *M. arvensis* L. can scarcely be grouped with other Canadian species of *Mentha* now regarded as varieties of it. Dr. Malte was of the opinion that the *Menthas* which now are called *M. arvensis* L., var. *canadensis* (L.) Briquet, and var. *lanata* Piper, are specifically distinct from *M. arvensis*, and furthermore,