

bondage of superstition and ignorance, helping man to *know himself*. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

The greatest contribution to intellectual emancipation has been the doctrine of evolution, that great theory which has revolutionized all our thinking with regard to man and his relations to nature. And evolution is the distinctive contribution of biology to civilization, for it was in respect to the living world and especially the human realm that the doctrine of evolution came as the great emancipation from superstition and ignorance. The greatest theme of evolution is not the origin of species, nor even the origin of living things, but rather *the oneness of all life*.

Biology has changed our whole point of view as to nature and man, and therefor must be ranked among the greatest of the sciences because of its national and cultural influences.

— W. O. C. '24.

SYNTHETIC RUBBER PRODUCTION

MORE and more the tendency to become independent of the plant and animal products as found in nature has asserted itself until at the present time we find many substances in existence which have never been found in organic life, as well as many other substances which though found in nature in an impure or weak form have been prepared in laboratories in such a concentrated form that the use of the extracted product as found in nature has been discontinued. Chief among the latter class are the synthesis or building up of indigo, certain medicines, and anaesthetics, and also the preparation of rubber for various purposes by synthesizing it from simpler compounds which either occur in plentiful quantities or are easily prepared.

As the war continued, Germany's supplies of rubber became exhausted, due to the British blockade of German ports and those of countries which export rubber. Accordingly German scientists endeavored to prepare rubber in the laboratory from materials, the supply of which they controlled.