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## NEWS AND NOTES

Frequent requests are made for sample copies of the first numbers of MYCOLOGIA. We should be glad to receive duplicate copies of these numbers that are not in use.

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The importance of the subject of pyrophilous fungi leads us to request those interested to make careful notes on all forms observed during the summer and autumn and to send them with the dried specimens to Mr. Seaver for critical examination.

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We learn from *Science* that the Tennessee legislature has passed a bill giving twenty-five per cent. of the state's revenue for education, seven per cent. being for the university and experiment station.

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Mr. Elam Bartholomew, editor and publisher of *Fungi Columbiani*, left his home in Stockton, Kansas, in June for a collecting trip of ten weeks on the Pacific Coast.

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The mycological papers presented at the recent Baltimore meeting of the A. A. A. S. are reviewed in the number of *Science* issued June 4, 1909.

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A valuable paper by F. A. Stockdale on the fungus diseases of coconuts in the West Indies appeared in the *West Indian Bulletin* 9: 361-381. 1909.

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The Garden has recently received from Père Duss 113 packets

of fungi collected by him in Guadeloupe. Most of the fungi collected by Duss have been worked over by Dr. N. Patouillard, of Paris.

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Professor F. L. Stevens, of the North Carolina Experiment Station, expects to visit the agricultural colleges and experiment stations of Europe during the summer.

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Mr. J. R. Johnston, of the Bureau of Plant Industry at Washington, has recently been studying the bud-rot of the cocoonut in Cuba.

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A paper by Freda M. Bachman on the Discomycetes in the Vicinity of Oxford, Ohio, is published in the proceedings of the Ohio State Academy of Science 5: 19-70. 1909. The paper contains a description of more than sixty species occurring in that region, and is accompanied by four plates with sixty-two figures.

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The Transactions of the Nova Scotia Institute of Science 12: 165-205, 1909, contains a descriptive list of the Myxomycetes of Pictou County, by C. L. Moore. Four plates, illustrating the principal genera, accompany the text.

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Part two of the Xylariaceae of Southern Brasil, by F. Thiessen, appeared in the April number of Annales Mycologici (7: 141-167. 1909). The paper is devoted mainly to the genus *Hypoxylon*, twenty-nine species and several varieties being listed, including one new species, *Hypoxylon verrucosum* Thiess. The subject of classification is discussed at some length.

The leaf-blight of the plane-tree (*Gloeosporium nervisequum*) became very noticeable on the Garden grounds during the first week in June, but the attacks of the fungus did not appear to be particularly injurious this season.

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According to Mr. Perley Spaulding, of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, the white pine blight includes several distinct diseases: a leaf blight accompanied by *Septoria parasitica*, two leaf diseases caused by *Lophodermium brachysporum* and *Hypoderma lineare*, a leaf and twig blight caused by winter freezing, and a twig blight, probably caused by insects.

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Mr. W. M. Scott, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C., has been conducting experiments for the past two years in various states with lime-sulphur mixtures for the summer spraying of orchards. Circular 27, of that bureau, is a report of the second season's experiments on peach, apple and cherry orchards. The experiments resulted in certain modifications of the mixtures for the peach and the Japanese plum, but were very encouraging for further experiments and for widespread use in the orchard where Bordeaux mixture is found objectionable.

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The Classification of the Basidiomycetes is discussed in a recent article by M. Léon Dufour (Rev. Gén. Bot. 20: 417-429. 1908), in which he proposes for the higher Autobasidiomycetes three principal divisions: the Cantharellineae, including *Clavaria*, *Thelephora*, *Hydnum*, *Craterellus* and *Cantharellus*; the Polyporineae, ranging from *Polyporus* to *Fistulina*, and related to the preceding group by such genera as *Cyphella* and *Dictyolus*; and the Agaricineae, comprising *Boletus*, *Paxillus*, and a series of genera culminating in *Amanita*. The Polyporineae are characterized as a heterogeneous group which will probably have to be divided. In closing, the author states that the difficult problem of classifying the Basidiomycetes is just on the point of being solved.

The Boletaceae of North America will be published in monograph form at the close of the year. Specimens of these plants are desired from as many stations as possible. Species may be determined more or less accurately in the fresh condition by the use of the keys published in this number and in No. 1 of MYCOLOGIA. All specimens should be thoroughly dried by artificial heat, using a piece of wire netting suspended over a lamp or stove, or some other contrivance, and afterwards packed in boxes with naphthalene or moth balls.

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The present season was somewhat earlier than usual for the larger fleshy fungi. *Coprinus micaceus* appeared April 15, and has been abundant since that time, after rains. A few plants of *Coprinus comatus* appeared about May 15 on a lawn where they grew late last fall, but these were probably exceptional, having passed the mild winter in the button stage. *Pleurotus sapidus* was fully grown and abundant on May 1. *Pluteus cervinus* occurred in great quantity on an old sawdust pile on May 15. Before the end of May *Clitocybe multiceps* appeared on a lawn where it grew last autumn, and has been abundant since. *Polyporus caudicinus* always matures early, so it was not surprising to find it in May; and the same is true of *Morchella*. A number of small fleshy forms appeared in fields and on roadsides during May and early June, but this is not unusual. A few plants of *Coprinus atramentarius* and *Hypholoma appendiculatum*, however, came as a surprise about May 15. On June 4, eighteen specimens of *Agaricus campestris* were collected in a field not far from Bronx Park.

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“The Association internationale des Botanistes founded, some years ago, an office where pure cultures of fungi can be obtained, either in exchange or on payment. The above-mentioned office proposes to compose a living register of the described fungi. Large numbers of species are mentioned in the handbooks which are said to be insufficiently described and which cannot possibly

be identified. The number of identical species, described under different names, is immense. This evil may be avoided in future if every mycologist, when describing a new fungus, sends a culture to the office of the Association. The author not only is relieved of the cultivation, but every one who is studying kindred species may procure material for comparison.

“Rather often applications are made to the office, but the collection does not grow in proportion to the description of new species. It has often occurred to us that on our requesting a person to send us a culture of a certain recently described fungus, the author was obliged to reply that as the work was passing through the press the cultures were lost. We beg you not to send the new species only but also those of which you have pure cultures and which are not mentioned on our list, published regularly in the ‘*Botanisches Centralblatt*,’ because many species are asked for which we do not possess. You are requested to tell us whether the species left to our care want frequent renewing. The greater part of our cultures are transferred but once every three months, but many of them want particular care.

“We beg to state again our terms, which are 3 florins (Dutch money) for non-members and 1.50 florins for the members of the Association.”

(Signed) DR. JOHANNA WESTERDIGH,  
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