SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, 272D
MEETING, SATURDAY, MARCH 27.

C. H. TOWNSEND spoke of 'The Distribution and Migration of the Northern Fur Seal,' giving a summary of the results obtained from a study of the log books of pelagic sealers, and illustrating his remarks by a chart showing the location of the seals on the Asiatic and American coasts at different seasons. The two herds, the American and the Asiatic, did not mingle, and the migrations of the former were much the more extensive of the two.

Charles Louis Pollard discussed 'What Constitutes a Type in Botany,' arguing in favor of recognizing multiple types when necessary. He suggested the abolition of the expression 'duplicate type,' on the ground that all specimens on which the original diagnosis is based must be of coordinate rank as actual types.

Lester F. Ward gave a 'Description of Seven Species of *Cycadeoidea* from the Iron Ore Deposits of Maryland,' saying that up to November 4, 1893, but a single species was known, based on four specimens collected by Philip Tyson before 1861. In 1893 Mr. Arthur Bibbins began work in the iron ore beds, under the auspices of the Woman's College of Baltimore, and up to the preset time he had procured no less than 59 specimens. These belonged to seven different species, but at present there was no reason to recognize more than the one genus *Cycadeoidea*.

F. A. LUCAS,
Secretary.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 260th meeting of the Society was held on March 2, 1897.

Dr. H. Carrington Bolton read a paper entitled 'The Language used in Talking to Domestic Animals.' He discussed the subject under the various animals controlled by man, dogs, horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, and gave illustrations from nearly every country in Europe and every State in the Union. His essay, which elicited much discussion, will appear in full in the *American Anthropologist*.

The discussion was by Professor Lester F.

Ward, W. H. Blodgett, P. B. Pierce, Dr. Frank Baker, Mr. Walter Hough, Dr. J. H. McCormick and others.

J. H. MCCORMICK,
General Secretary.

MEETING OF THE N. Y. SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

THE New York Section of the American Chemical Society held its regular meeting on March 5th.

The following papers were read :

'Note on the Volumetric Estimation of Lead,' by J. H. Wainwright.

'Electrolytic Production of Alkali Nitrites,' by Wm. M. Grosvenor.

'Method of Drying Sensitive Organic Substances,' by C. C. Parsons.

'Chemistry of the Sanitary Control of Milk Supplies,' by E. J. Lederle.

'Quantitative Separations by Sodium Nitrite,' by Gilette Wynkoop.

'On the Composition of Beet Sugar Ash,' by C. F. A. Meisel.

'Determination of Lead in Lead Ores,' by Richard K. Meade.

The meeting was well attended, and much interest was shown in the papers read.

DURAND WOODMAN,
Secretary.

THE GEOLOGICAL CLUB OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, FEBRUARY 20, 1897.

MR. WARREN UPHAM read a paper entitled 'The Topography and Glacial Geology of the City of St. Paul.'

Attention was directed to the remarkable northeastward loop of the Mississippi river, here interrupting its general southeastward course. The rock formations beneath the drift have a horizontal stratification, being, in ascending order, the St. Peter sandstone, Trenton limestone and Trenton shales. The observed thickness of the shales is about 145 feet, their highest outcrop being 260 feet above the river or 945 feet above the sea. Above these bed rocks the glacial and modified drift deposits form the surface, and rise in morainic hills and smoother ridges from 200 to nearly 400 feet above the