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Remarks on the Loess

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Sci., etc. I would recommend that in all such cases the current numbers be turned over to the state librarian at the end of each year. By this means duplication will be avoided, the library will be relieved from the expense of purchasing the books, and the academy will be saved from the expenses incident to binding and preserving them. I would further recommend, that in cases where the books received by the academy duplicate those received by the state library, the librarian of the academy be allowed to dispose of them upon the best terms available. I would further recommend, that, at the end of each year, all unbound books and pamphlets belonging to the academy be transferred to the state librarian, provided that the latter agrees to have them properly bound and preserved, and that they continue to be available for the uses of the members of the academy.

I would further recommend, that the academy petition the board of library trustees to allow the members and fellows to withdraw, under such regulations as they may devise, books from the scientific department of the library.

A memorandum of sales of proceedings and expenses incurred by the librarian will be found in the treasurer's report.

Respectfully,

H. FOSTER BAIN.

In addition to the regular papers read in full or by title and published herewith, the academy was shown a very full series of photographs of geological formations by Prof. J. L. Tilton.

Prof. F. W. Sardeson, of Minnesota State university, and Prof. J. E. Todd, state geologist of South Dakota, were in attendance and participated in the discussions.

Professor Sardeson was by motion invited to address the academy, and responded by cordially expressing his pleasure at being able to attend the session, and appreciation of the courtesies extended.

Touching upon the discussion that had followed the reading of papers on Loess formation he made the following:

REMARKS ON THE LOESS.

F. W. SARDESON, STATE UNIVERSITY, MINNESOTA.

(Abstract.)

The speaker commented on the common discrepancies in the use of the name "loess," which are due to the different theories held by scientists as to the origin of the geologic formations called loess. He denied having any immediate intention of trying to solve the question of origin of the deposits called loess in Iowa and neighboring states, but commended the problem to the Iowa geological survey as the strongest agent for

the needed solution. Regarding the name "loess," however, the appropriateness of limiting the name strictly to deposits of æolian origin was urged. Since, in Iowa, the loess has been derived largely or chiefly from the glacial drift, a more exact terminology, distinguishing the "modified drift" from loess and other deposits was believed to be necessary. Thus the "till" when washed and assorted by water becomes "modified drift." The resulting gravel, the sands and the clays, are distinguishable from the wind-driven or æolian deposits, although the latter are largely derived from the "modified drift." Clays of the modified drift can be distinguished from æolian deposit, the true loess, and both of these from washed or "modified" loess. Oxidized loess, loess loam, would seem to be easily distinguishable from the typical loess. Further, the relationship between the till, modified drift materials, and the loess in the region of the type loess deposits of the world, *i. e.*, in the Rhine valley, were reviewed, and the similar relationships which have been proved to exist in Iowa were recognized. Also the significance of the loess loams which are usually associated with each loess formation was considered—and finally the scientific and commercial value of these clays suggested the value of further detailed knowledge as to their occurrence.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

BY THOMAS H. MACBRIDE.

Gentlemen of the Academy:

When, a short time ago, I was advised by our indefatigable secretary that by virtue of having been chosen vice-president of this body, the duty of making the presidential address fell to my share, I was somewhat disconcerted. I was at first inclined to push my honors from me and to say that inasmuch as no time remained for the preparation of a suitable discourse, the presiding officer would simply waive his prerogative in that particular and pass to the next order of business.

On consulting precedent, however, I discovered, what I must have forgotten, that the annual address is often happily employed in the simple enumeration of the scientific achievements of the passing year, and in suggesting lines of future