

- 220,103.—*Compounds for preserving organic bodies.* JEAN WICKERSHEIMER.
Glycerine, methylic alcohol and a solution of alum, salt, nitre, pot-ash and arsenious acid.
- 220,116.—*Process of extracting oil from the residuum in the manufacture of glucose.* ARNO BEHR and H. C. HUMPHREY.
In the manufacture of glucose directly from corn, by treatment with acids, or by the diastase process, the insoluble residue contains all, or nearly all, the fatty matter of the corn. The patent is for recovering it from this residue by means of solvents.
- 220,121.—*Antiseptic compounds.* MAX BURCHARDT.
Peat, sulphate of iron, coke and coal-tar.
- 220,148.—*Manufacture of aluminium.* JAMES S. HOWARD.
According to this patent, aluminium is produced by heating in a crucible a mixture of alum and carbonate of soda, together with charcoal and salt.
- 220,148.—*Manufacture of alloys of aluminium.* JAMES S. HOWARD.
A mixture of alum and carbonate of soda is introduced into the molten metal, to which the aluminium is to be alloyed.
- 220,150.—*Manufacture of glucose.* HENRY C. HUMPHREY.
The patent is for the use of oxalic acid in the manufacture of a sweet and light colored syrup, directly from corn.

 XXVI.—PROCEEDINGS.

Regular Meeting, October 2, 1879.

The meeting was called to order at 8 P. M. Vice-President Squibb in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

The report of the Committee upon a Plan for the Selection of Officers, was read by Dr. Squibb, and after an explanation by Dr. Alsberg, was, on motion, adopted.

To the American Chemical Society:

Your Committee, appointed at the last meeting, to prepare a plan for conducting the annual election of the Society, whereby distant members may have a better opportunity for being represented, begs leave to submit the following report:

By the Constitution the officers annually elected are:

A President,

Six Vice-Presidents—three of whom must reside within thirty miles of New York City:

A Corresponding Secretary,
A Recording Secretary,
A Treasurer,
A Librarian,
Three Curators,

and a Board of thirteen Directors, which Board must embrace three Vice-Presidents, the Corresponding Secretary, the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer, and may embrace any other officers of the Society if elected to it. It should embrace, for obvious reasons, the Librarian and one member of the Committee on Papers and Publications.

Two Committees are also to be annually elected—

A Committee on Papers and Publications, consisting of three members; and

A Committee on Nominations for Membership, consisting of five members.

At the annual elections, a majority of the votes cast is necessary to an election, and any absent member may vote by a ballot subscribed with his name.

The course hitherto followed has been for the Chairman of the meeting next preceding the annual meeting, to appoint a Committee to prepare a ballot for the offices and committees, and send this to every member, with the request that each may erase and supply names according to his judgment or desire, sign the completed ballot, and return it in time for the election. The general result of this plan has been that a large number of the ballots are not returned at all, and that of those returned a very few have been altered, so that the elections have been nearly unanimous. But another result of late has been a few expressions of dissatisfaction with the plan, on account of undue weight given to the central or local membership, and, hence, this Committee was appointed to propose some plan that might obviate the objections made by non-resident members.

Your Committee has discussed various plans without finding one that is free from serious difficulties, or that is likely to satisfy the entire membership.

The Charter Law requires that seven members of the thirteen Directors shall be residents of the State of New York, and that a majority of the Board shall be present to constitute a quorum, and it makes the Board of Directors pecuniarily liable for the debts and the management of the Society.

The welfare and usefulness of the Society requires that the two Secretaries, the Treasurer, the Librarian, the Curators, the Board of Directors and the two Committees, should consist of members living near the place of meeting, and having the time, ability and the inclination, necessary to carry on its affairs; and these affairs involve a very considerable amount of important labor and self-sacrifice. And thus far these offices are not positions of either honor or emolument. These offices must be local, and the filling of them must devolve mainly on the local membership. And with all the care that could be taken, they have not always been successfully filled. When successfully filled—and the Society has had many faithful officers—it is manifestly to the interest of the Society and its work, to continue the successful selections year after year, if the officers can be induced to continue to serve; first, because a well-trying, successful officer is better than an untried one; second, because an officer who has done the work well, does it better and more easily than a new one; third, because the number of members who can and will do the work well, is very small, and the selection very difficult; fourth, because several of these officers must be members of the Board of Directors, and are, therefore, pecuniarily liable, and few outside of the local membership have been found willing to accept the responsibility, because they cannot be present to know or to control the acts for which they become responsible.

In addition to its other work, and of more importance to non-resident members, perhaps, than any other work, the Society now has a Journal which, if moderately well conducted, must certainly be worth to every member the full amount of his annual dues. How important is it then that the officers of the Society should be energetic, prompt and laborious, in their part of the work of this Journal; and that the Committee in charge of it should be equally active and energetic in collecting the other material necessary to its greatest utility. And who better than some committee from the local membership, could select and offer to the suffrage of the total membership, the proper persons for these offices and committees. And if over-worked, or lukewarm, or selfish members were put into these places, how rapidly must the Society deteriorate, and how soon would it begin to lose, rather than gain, in its value to its distant members.

On the other hand, the offices of President and Vice-Presidents are mainly honorary, and involve no labor that cannot easily be

given by any one. Hence, these officers should be selected from those members whose public work and influence has been most important to the ultimate and general objects of the Society. Every member has not only an equal interest in, but also an equal knowledge of the question, as to who might best fill these posts of honor; and, therefore, the widest freedom of choice is desirable here, with the least possible room given for local prejudices. In short, these offices are as independent of locality as the other group is dependent.

In view of these considerations, your Committee proposes that at this October meeting, the members present nominate at large nine persons who would be competent to form a proper nominating committee, and who would attend to the duties of selecting proper officers of the Society. Then, that from these nine names, each written on a slip of paper and placed in the ballot box, the presiding officer should draw by chance three, and that these three should constitute the Nominating Committee to prepare a ballot or ticket, and present it complete at the November meeting, to be then approved or modified by the Society.

This ballot or ticket should be prepared, as follows: It should first have blank spaces for a President and six Vice-Presidents, so that each member could fill them up with his own choice of candidates.

Next it should name a carefully selected candidate for each of the other offices, having ascertained that such candidate would consent to serve.

Next, as it is proposed that not only the three Vice-Presidents, the two Secretaries and the Treasurer, should be upon the Board of Directors, but also the Librarian, and some one member of the Committee on Papers and Publications, making eight ex-officio members of the Board, five other names should be selected and presented.

Next, three names should be selected for the very important Committee on Papers and Publications, and one of these names should be placed in the Board of Directors.

Next, five names should be selected and presented for the hardly less important Committee on Nominations for Membership in the Society.

At the foot of this ballot or ticket should be placed, first, the following sentence:

“As a majority of the votes cast are necessary to an election, and as the names on the above ticket may fail of being elected by this ballot, and render a new election necessary from those names having the highest number of votes, I hereby appoint _____, as my proxy, to vote in my stead at such new election, and if said proxy fails to be present, or to vote in my place, I agree that my ballot should be withdrawn and not counted.”

Then should follow a place for the member's signature.

Then the following note should be appended :

“Members will please fill the blank spaces under the heads for President and Vice-Presidents, being careful to select such names as will be likely to be so generally appreciated as to be selected by other members, for unless there be some partial agreement on candidates, election by this plan is impossible.

“In selecting candidates for Vice-Presidents, three must reside in or near New York City.

“If the names of any of the candidates presented here be objected to, let them be crossed off, and others substituted.

“Please notice well that if no proxy be named, or none be present, this ballot will have no effect, should a second voting be necessary to an election.

“If a majority be not secured on counting the ballots sent in, this balloting will have the effect of an open nomination by the Society at large, and the two candidates for each office which had the highest number of votes on the first ballot, will be presented for a new election, and one or the other will be elected by the members and proxies present at the annual meeting.

“Members should fill up and sign this ballot at once, and mail it in the stamped and addressed envelope sent herewith for the purpose.”

All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. ALSBERG,	} <i>Committee.</i>
P. CASAMAJOR,	
E. R. SQUIBB, Chairman.	

The following gentlemen were then nominated to serve on the Committee for the Selection of Officers, in accordance with the plan proposed in the foregoing report: Messrs. Behr, Endemann, Squibb, Casamajor, Leeds, Goldschmidt, Alsberg, Goldmark and Waller; from which Vice-President Leeds selected by lot Messrs. Goldschmidt, Goldmark and Endemann, as members of such Committee.

The resignations of Messrs. Ashburner and Cornwall were read and accepted.

Messrs. Thomas Harmer, C. Tessié du Motay, and ——— Giesecke, were elected members.

The following gentlemen were proposed as members: Win. J. Oothout, proposed by C. A. Doremus, seconded by Messrs. Bourgougnon and Rossi; Henry Doscher, proposed by F. A. Grund, seconded by Messrs. Alsberg and Behr; and Henry C. Iness, proposed by Bruno Terne, seconded by Messrs. Alsberg and Behr.

Dr. Squibb then presented to the collection of the Society, in the name of Prof. J. W. Mallet: 1. A specimen of Heptane, a liquid hydrocarbon, first described by Mr. T. Wenzell, of San Francisco, as a product of distillation from the exudation of the *Pineus Sabiniana*, under the name abietine. This liquid was recently the subject of an admirable and exhaustive paper by Prof. Thorpe, published in the *Journal of the London Chem. Soc.*, for June, 1879, pp. 296 *et seq.* In this paper, the very interesting chemical character of this liquid was first shown. 2. Three interesting specimens of Chinese galls, some of which have found their way into use, and become articles of commerce. All are described in recent notes on such articles.

Mr. Jas. H. Stebbins, Jr., then read his paper on "A New Sulphur Urea Compound."

Dr. Endemann then read, in full, Prof. Goessmann's papers entitled: 1. "Sugar in Corn Stalks and Melons." 2. "Report on Field Experiments with Sugar Cane in Louisiana." 3. "Analyses of Intestinal Concretions." By title: 4. "Contributions to the Chemistry of Fruit Culture."

After which Prof. Leeds gave abstracts of his papers, entitled: 1. "Comparative Results Obtained with Electrical Ozonisers, with Description of a Modified Form." 2. "Re-examination of Chemical Methods Proposed for the Generation of Ozone." 3. "Non-production of Ozone in the Crystallization of Iodic Acid." 4. "Action of Ozone upon Organic Substances."

Mr. Bourgougnon gave a description of a recent patent of Tessié du Motay, for bleaching ostrich feathers, by dipping them into turpentine, and then exposing to the air.

After which, upon motion, the Society adjourned.

S. A. GOLDSCHMIDT,
Recording Secretary.