SCIENTIFIC PROCEEDINGS.

ABSTRACTS OF THE COMMUNICATIONS.[1]

Thirteenth meeting.[2]

Physiological Laboratory of Columbia University, at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. October 18, 1905. President Wilson in the chair.

1 (93).[3] **"A fatigue wheel": FREDERIC S. LEE.**

The author demonstrated a wheel designed for fatiguing mammals by means of voluntary muscular work.

2 (94). **"Mutation in the evening primrose, Onagra biennis (L.) Scop.,"** with demonstrations: **ELIZABETH BILLINGS** and **FREDERIC S. LEE.**

Culture experiments by the authors confirmed MacDougal's discovery of a narrow-leaved mutant of this species. From purely pollenated seed obtained by MacDougal and Britton from a wild plant growing at the New York Botanical Garden, 499 seedlings were obtained, of which 3 belonged to the narrow-leaved type. It is possible that a second mutant was found, but further observations are needed to confirm this. The species used by the authors is not *O. biennis* studied by de Vries.

3 (95). **"On the influence of thyroid feeding and of various foods and of small amounts of food upon poisoning by acetonitril": REID HUNT.** (Presented by **ALFRED N. RICHARDS.**)

One of the current theories of the functions of the thyroids is that these organs neutralize certain poisons occurring in the body; these poisons are purely hypothetical, and, so far as the author is aware, no one has yet reported experiments in which it has been shown that the thyroid can render a poison harmless. In the present experiments it was found that mice, to which thyroid had

[1] The authors of the communications have written the abstracts. The editor has made a few abbreviations and minor alterations in some of them.

[2] *Science*, 1905, xxii, p. 635; *American Medicine*, 1905, x, p. 911; *Medical News*, 1905, lxxxvii, p. 1143.

[3] See preface.