Health Department of the State. This Department has been engaged in eliminating smallpox and yellow fever, and has also greatly reduced the frequency of hook-worm, its sanitary services being in co-operation with the Mexican Government and the Rockefeller Foundation. The new Bureau is thus included in a public service and has large powers. Free birth control clinics were instituted, and sterilisation provided for in serious cases of unfitness and inadaptability. This is the culmination of a series of reforms made by Governor Tejada, which included the suppression of saloons, compulsory sex education in the schools, mandatory medical treatment for venereal disease and a new civil code which entailed eugenical provisions in matters of marriage and divorce. By the new regulations, which are given in full (*Amer. J. Psychiatry*, 13, No. 2) by Dr. S. Mendoza, who drafted the bill, provisions are made through the Bureau of Eugenics and Mental Hygiene not only for the dissemination of information but also for the control of sterilisation of persons suffering from hereditary diseases or from conditions which the Bureau considers to be "a cause of biological degeneration or mental deficiency in their offspring".

Association of American Geographers

THE thirtieth annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers was held on December 26–28, at North-western University, Evanston, Illinois. In the three day session fifty-seven papers were presented, including thirteen in the field of geomorphology, ten or more in regional geography and six in urban geography. The remainder represented a diversity of subjects. The afternoon of December 26 was devoted to the general subject of "Conventionalizing Geographic Investigation and Presentation". The papers on this subject were presented by Profs. P. E. James of the University of Michigan, Wellington D. Jones of the University of Chicago and V. C. Finch of the University of Wisconsin. A feature of the meeting was an address by Dr. L. Dudley Stamp, an invited guest of the Association, who spoke on "One Hundred Years of Change in Land Utilisation in the British Isles—the Work of the Land Utilisation Survey of Britain". The retiring president, François E. Matthes of the United States Geological Survey, gave the annual address. He spoke on "Our Greatest Mountain Range, the Sierra Nevada of California". The following officers were elected for 1934: *President*, Dr. W. W. Atwood, president of Clark University; *Vice-President*, Prof. V. C. Finch, chairman of the Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin; *Secretary*, Prof. F. E. Williams, University of Pennsylvania; *Treasurer*, Prof. R. S. Platt, University of Chicago.

Greenkeeping Research

THE autumn volume (No. 9) of the *Journal of the Board of Greenkeeping Research* contains a useful summary of experimental and practical results on the use of sulphate of ammonia and sulphate of iron as fertilisers and weed killers for lawns. It is interesting to note that the treatment has stood the test of several years' practical application, but its effects cannot be ascribed directly to increase in the acidity of the soil. Dr. F. T. Bennett describes a disease of turf known as *Fusarium* patch. The Director of the Board's Research Station at St. Ives, Bingley, Yorks, Mr. R. B. Dawson, contributes the fourth of a series of articles on "Common Weeds of Turf", whilst other members of the staff write on "A Greenkeeper's Guide to the Grasses" (Mr. I. G. Lewis) and "Composts and Fertilisers in Relation to Greenkeeping" (Dr. T. W. Evans). A new form of steriliser for killing weed seeds in compost which is to be applied to weed-free turf is described by Mr. K. M. A. Enthoven, of Hilversum, Holland. The subject matter of the whole volume is of great interest—almost a necessity—to golf green keepers, but the more general horticulturist will find a great deal of definite teaching which will help him to make his lawns the beautiful stretches of green sward which he so earnestly desires.

Scientific Horticulture

THE "Horticultural Education Association Year Book", vol. 2, 1933 has just appeared under the able editorship of Mr. R. T. Pearl (Wye, Kent. H. E. A., South-Eastern Agricultural College, 3*s*. 6*d*.). "Commercial Horticulture in Lincolnshire" is described by Messrs. J. G. Murray, F. Wakerley and J. C. Wallace, whilst Mr. D. V. Howells writes on the same topic for Scotland. Various aspects of fruit-growing are dealt with by Messrs. N. B. Bagenal, W. G. Kent, F. Kidd and C. West, B. S. Furneaux, R. Hart and A. J. Wooldridge. Dr. R. N. Salaman contributes a paper on potato virus diseases, Mr. C. A. Cameron Brown reviews early progress in electric soil heating, Dr. R. M. Woodman writes on weed killers, Mr. R. K. MacDowall on spraying with sulphuric acid, Mr. W. E. H. Hodson on chrysanthemum eelworm, and Mr. F. A. Secrett on "Early Market Garden Produce". Direct problems of teaching are discussed by Messrs. W. H. Christian and R. T. Pearl, whilst the presidential address by Mr. N. B. Bagenal is a biography of Thomas Andrew Knight. A valuable series of book reviews is added. The whole volume is a pleasing blend of science with practice.

Fossilised Tree Remains in Yellowstone National Park

SCIENCE SERVICE, Washington, D.C., has recorded an interesting discovery made during the construction of a new road from Tower Falls to Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone National Park. While cutting through a rock, two petrified tree-stumps, both upright as they stood, the report says, millions of years ago, were brought to light. The progress of the new road has left the specimens cut in halves, embedded in the solid rock, which was probably volcanic dust when petrification was taking place during the Miocene period. It is even possible to trace the complicated root systems of the specimens. It has not been decided what species the remains represent. Chestnut, sycamores, sequoias, pines and cypress have all grown in this region during the centuries in which the fossilisation took place.