STATE PARKS MOVEMENT GROWS

Representatives of the forty-three states that now have state parks, forests, or similar natural areas open to their people for educational and recreational purposes will meet at Hot Springs, Arkansas, for their sixth national conference, June 14 to 16. John Barton Payne, chairman of the conference, states that since the movement was organized on a national basis at Des Moines, Iowa, in 1921, the number of states having parks has doubled, andthe number of preserves in such systems has shown even greater growth, so that the area now included is nearly seven million acres. The goal of themovement is "a state park every hundred miles."

"DEWBOWS" FORMED AT NIGHT BY MOONLIGHT

"Dewbows", similar to rainbows, but with droplets of dew deposited on grass taking the place of the minute particles of water suspended in the air, and with the light of the moon serving instead of the sun, have been observed on the campus of Rice Institute, Maurice Ewing says in a note in a recent issue of "Science".

"The dewbows appeared as faintly defined streaks of white light tracing ellipses in the grass", he says. They were only seen after freshly formed dew, and not after a shower, because the drops left by rain, or by dew which has been standing for several hours, are so large that they are not practically perfect spheres, as are the smaller ones. Though each of the larger drops refracts the light in the same way as the smaller ones, the fact that they are of different shapes makes the refracted beams from each go in different directions, and so the bow is not seen, which results from the cumulative effect of a number of different droplets.

TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

THE BACTERIOPHAGE AND ITS BEHAVIOR. By F. d'Herelle. Baltimore. Williams and Wilkins Co. 1926. 629 pp. $8.00.

Dr. d'Herelle here gives a complete account of the bacteriophage, that strange, invisible "principle" that devours bacteria, discovered by the author some ten years ago. The book is written for scientists but the manner of presentation is so straightforward and incisive and the resumes of the chapters aid so admirably in making clear the author's point in regard to each matter he discusses, that the lay reader need have no hesitation in turning to the book for authoritative information.

Dr. d'Herelle is entirely convinced of the living, organic character of the bacteriophage and argues at length in defense of this view against the theory that only a chemical phenomenon is involved. He discusses the distribution of the bacteriophage, the reaction between it and the bacteria it parasitizes and its behavior under various conditions. He also discusses the use of the bacteriophage in combatting certain infectious diseases and he suggests its purely theoretical significance in relation to the study of the origin of life and the process of evolution.
