

excluded, we feel confident that the publication of these observations must excite renewed interest in the mosquito-theory of the propagation of yellow fever, as first proposed by Finlay.

From the first part of our study of yellow fever, we draw the following conclusions:

1. The blood taken during life from the general venous circulation, on various days of the disease, in 18 cases of yellow fever, successively studied, has given negative results as regards the presence of *B. icteroides*.

2. Cultures taken from the blood and organs of 11 yellow fever cadavers have also proved negative as regards the presence of this bacillus.

3. *Bacillus icteroides* (Sanarelli) stands in no causative relation to yellow fever, but, when present, should be considered as a secondary invader in this disease.

From the second part of our study of yellow fever, we draw the following conclusions:

The mosquito serves as the intermediate host for the parasite of yellow fever, and it is highly probable that the disease is only propagated through the bite of this insect.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

PROFESSOR S. P. LANGLEY, director of the Smithsonian Institution returned to the United States on October 24th. He was given the honorary degree of Doctor of Science on October 11th, by Cambridge University.

THE Rumford Committee of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences has voted a grant of \$200 to Mr. C. E. Mendenhall of Williams College for the furtherance of his investigations on a hollow bolometer, and a grant of \$500 to Professor George E. Hale of the Yerkes Observatory in furtherance of his researches in connection with the application of the radiometer and a study of the infra-red spectrum of the chromosphere.

DR. E. W. HOBSON, F.R.S., has been nominated for the presidency of the London Mathematical Society, succeeding Lord Kelvin.

SIR LOWTHIAN BELL, F.R.S., succeeds the Hon. C. A. Parsons, F.R.S. as president of the British Institution of Junior Engineers.

PROFESSOR BRUHNE, who holds the chair of physics in the University of Dijon, has been ap-

pointed director of the observatory on the Pui-de-Dôme.

MR. MARSHALL H. SAVILLE, of the American Museum of Natural History, left for Southern Mexico on November 1st, where he will continue his excavations in the territory formerly occupied by the Zapotecs.

DR. KARL E. GUTHE, of the department of physics of the University of Michigan, is spending the present year in Leipzig, Germany, conducting investigations in the general subject of physical chemistry.

A BRONZE medallion with a likeness of Sylvester will hereafter be awarded as a mathematical prize at the Johns Hopkins University.

THE death is announced, at the age of seventy-seven years, of Dr. Friedrich Max-Müller, Corpus professor of comparative philology at Oxford University, well-known throughout the world for his researches in oriental philosophy and literature and for his more popular writings, covering a wide field.

DR. MOSES C. WHITE, emeritus professor in the Yale Medical School, died on October 24th aged seventy-nine years, and Dr. Lawrence Turnbull, the author of numerous works on diseases of the eye and ear, and a well-known specialist, on October 24th, aged seventy-nine years.

WE regret also to record the death at the age of sixty-one years of Dr. A. B. Frank, professor of botany in the Agricultural School at Berlin and director of the biological division of the Imperial Board of Health; of Dr. Robert Hegler, docent in chemistry in the University at Rostock, on September 29th, aged thirty-one years, and of Dr. Ferdinand Anton, director of the astronomical and meteorological observatory of Trieste, on October 3d, at the age of fifty-six years.

WE have already called attention to the appointment of a Baird Memorial Committee, of which Dr. H. M. Smith is chairman, the object of which is to erect a tablet or monument at Woods Holl in memory of the late Spencer F. Baird. The nature of the proposed memorial has not yet been determined as it must depend on the amount subscribed, but the committee

are now prepared to receive subscriptions. Any contribution will be acceptable, but the committee are especially anxious to receive a large number of small individual subscriptions. These may be sent to the treasurer of the committee, the Hon. E. G. Blackford, Fulton Market, New York City.

THE Eighteenth Congress of the American Ornithologists' Union will convene in Cambridge, Mass., on Monday, November 12th at 8 o'clock P. M. The evening session will be devoted to the election of officers and the transaction of other routine business. The meetings, open to the public and devoted to the reading and discussion of scientific papers, will be held in the Nash Lecture room, University Museum, Oxford St., beginning Tuesday, November 13th, at 10 A. M., and continuing for three days.

THE Trustees of the Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, have sent invitations for the celebration of Founders Day in Music Hall and for an exhibition of the Art Gallery, Library and Museum on Thursday afternoon, November 1st. The Museum has been greatly enriched during the present year by the fossil vertebrates of Wyoming and South Dakota, which will be described by Dr. J. B. Hatcher in the next issue of this Journal.

THE lecture arrangements of the London Institution for the present season include the following: 'The Rise of Egyptian Civilization,' by Professor Flinders Petrie; 'The Earth's Beginning,' by Sir Robert Ball; 'The Earth's Earliest Inhabitants,' by Professor Grenville Cole; 'The Caves of Jenolan,' by Mr. F. Lambert; 'The Tercentenary of the Science of Electricity,' by Professor Sylvanus Thompson; 'The Evolution of the Brain,' by Dr. Alex Hill; 'Modern Aeronautics,' by Mr. Eric S. Bruce; 'The First Ascent of Mount Kenya,' by Mr. H. J. MacKinder; 'The Effect of Alcohol on the Nervous System,' by Professor Victor Horsley; 'The Decorative Art of Primitive Peoples,' by Professor A. C. Haddon, and 'Aquatic Autocrats and Fairies,' by Mr. F. Enock.

A CIVIL service examination will be held on November 20th to fill the position of assistant biologist in the Division of Biological Survey,

Department of Agriculture, at an annual salary of \$1,500. The subjects and their weights are as follows: Essay writing, 1; French, 1; German, 1; physical geography of the United States, 1; ornithology and mammalogy, 3; identification of specimens, 3.

ACCORDING to the *St. Petersburg Gazette*, the Russian Government has decided to adopt the metric standard of weights and measures, and the ministry of finance is now engaged in considering the time and manner of introducing this reform.

THE expedition sent by the Harvard Observatory to observe the planet Eros in its approaching opposition has arrived at Kingston, Jamaica, and is being afforded facilities for its work by the Government.

A CABLE dispatch to the *New York Sun* states that an official report of the Duke of the Abruzzi's discoveries in the north is published in the *Rivista Marittima*. It says the expedition corrected the position of Cape Flora, and reports that King Oscar Island and Petermann Land do not exist.

A PATHOLOGICAL INSTITUTE is being built at Quala Lumpoy, the capital of the federated Malay States, and Dr. Hamilton Wright has been appointed director. The British Colonial Office has offered to pay the expenses of students who wish to study beri-beri and malaria at the new institute.

VICE-CONSUL GENERAL HANAUER, of Frankfurt, under date of September 29, 1900, says: Molten wood is a new invention by Mr. De Gall, inspector of forests at Lemur, France. By means of dry distillation and high pressure, the escape of developing gases is prevented, thereby reducing the wood to a molten condition. After cooling off, the mass assumes the character of coal, yet without showing a trace of the organic structure of that mineral. This new body is hard, but can be shaped and polished at will; is impervious to water and acids, and is a perfect electrical non-conductor.

THE *London Times* states, that a meeting of the British and American members of the International Association for the Advancement of Science, Arts and Education was held in the

United States pavilion at the exhibition on September 14th. Mr. Bryce, M.P., vice-president of the British group, was in the chair. The officials and various members of the French, Russian, and German groups of the Association were also present. A report prepared by the secretaries of the work of the first year was read by Professor Patrick Geddes. He described the work in Paris, which has been to provide, on the one hand, a rendezvous and center for scientific men and others attending the congresses of the exhibition; and, on the other, to provide for the public interested in various sections expert guidance to these. He further stated that a series of brief reports were being prepared by members of the assembly on special phases of the exhibition, and that it was proposed to organize assemblies at the Glasgow Exhibition of 1901 and the St. Louis Exhibition of 1903. Resolutions commending the work of the Association in all its branches and approving the proposals for future activities were proposed and carried unanimously. The chairman, in supporting the resolutions, said that he hoped all present would endeavor to bring the aims of the organization to the knowledge of those who would be able to give it financial help. He wished to dwell for a moment on the excellent evidence of international cooperation which was to be seen in this Association. Lately there had been a meeting of Chambers of Commerce in Paris, and much had been said of the advantages to be gained from peace and harmony among the nations. But commerce, much as they desired it to be means of peace, sometimes led to strife. He thought there was something which made far more strongly for peace, and that was science and learning, which did not depend for their growth on competition and rivalry. For this reason he felt that their association should be a great factor towards international understanding. He felt the exhibition had made an opportunity for the coming together of the *savants* of the world, and the International Association gave the means to continue the friendly relations there begun.

A REPORT on the plague in Egypt, covering the period from May, 1899, to July, 1900, which has been issued from the Sanitary Department of the Ministry of the Interior at

Cairo, according to the London *Times*, contains a very full and clear account of the outbreak at Alexandria which commenced in the first named month, and the last case of which occurred on the 5th of the following November. In all 96 cases became known to the authorities; and it was estimated that 27 more, of mild character and followed by recovery, might possibly have escaped notification. The 96 were made up of 66 natives and 30 foreigners, the latter mostly Greeks, Frenchmen or Italians employed in groceries, bakeries, wine shops or at restaurateurs. The mortality among reported cases was 48 per cent., and there was reason to believe that no death from plague escaped notice. The precautions taken for arresting the course of the disease appear to have been admirably devised and conducted, and are set forth under the three heads of—(1) measures to assure prompt discovery of each case of plague and of all suspicious cases; (2) direct measures to prevent the propagation of the disease from individual cases; and (3) indirect measures, such as general cleansing of dirty quarters, with a view to eliminate all conditions favorable to the existence or propagation of the disease. A sum of £E.30,000 was granted by the Caisse de la Dette to defray the extra expenses, and was placed at the disposal of the Director-General of the Sanitary Department; but the total outlay exceeded this sum by £E.4000; and the whole of the work required seems to have been carried out with great discretion and tact, and with the *minimum* of offence to religious or other susceptibilities. The description of the administration, which is in English, is followed by a report in French on the clinical histories of the more important cases, a history from which it appears that, without bacteriological examination, the diagnosis of plague is beset by great difficulties and must often be extremely uncertain.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE daily papers report that a trustee of Beloit College has offered to contribute \$200,000 in case the further sum of \$150,000 is collected for the College.

MR. HOLBROOK GASKELL has given \$5,000