

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

THE provisions reorganizing certain divisions of the Department of Agriculture which, as we noted last week, were omitted from the appropriation bill as it passed the House have been reinserted by the Senate. The four bureaus provided and the staffs, as the bill now stands, are as follows:

Bureau of Plant Industry.—One plant physiologist and pathologist, who shall be chief of bureau, \$3,000; 1 plant pathologist, \$2,500; 1 botanist, \$2,500; 1 pomologist, \$2,500; 1 agrostologist, \$2,500; 1 assistant pathologist, \$1,800; 1 assistant botanist, \$1,800; 1 assistant pomologist, \$1,800; 1 assistant agrostologist, \$1,800; 2 clerks, class 3, \$3,200; 3 clerks, class 2, \$4,200; 3 clerks, class 1, \$3,600; 5 clerks at \$1,000 each; \$5,000; 2 clerks at \$900 each, \$1,800; 2 clerks at \$840 each, \$1,680 in all, \$39,680.

Bureau of Forestry.—One forester who shall be chief of bureau, \$3,000; 1 assistant forester, \$2,500; 1 assistant forester, \$1,800; 1 assistant forester, \$2,000; 1 chief clerk, \$1,800; 1 stenographer, \$1,200; 1 field assistant, \$1,500; 1 field assistant, \$1,400; 1 field assistant, \$1,200; 1 field assistant, \$1,000; 1 field assistant, \$720; 10 collaborators at \$300 each, \$3,000; 1 clerk class 3, \$1,600; 1 photographer, \$1,200; 1 computer, \$1,000; 3 clerks, class 1, \$3,600; 2 clerks at \$1,000 each, \$2,000; 4 clerks at \$900 each, \$3,600; 7 clerks at \$720 each, \$5,040; in all, \$39,160.

Bureau of Chemistry.—One chemist, who shall be chief of bureau, \$3,000; 1 assistant chemist, \$2,500; 1 assistant chemist, \$1,800; 1 assistant chemist, \$1,600; 2 clerks, class 1, \$2,400; in all, \$11,300.

Bureau of Soils.—One soil physicist who shall be chief of bureau, \$3,000; 1 scientist, \$2,500; 1 scientist, \$1,800; 1 scientist, \$1,000; 1 chief clerk, \$2,000; 1 stenographer, \$1,200; 3 clerks, class 1, \$3,600; 1 clerk, \$1,000; 1 clerk, \$840; 1 watchman, \$720; 1 charwoman, \$480; in all, \$18,140.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society has been awarded to Professor E. C. Pickering, director of the Harvard College Observatory.

THE Amsterdam Society for the Advancement of Natural Science and Medicine has awarded its gold Swammerdam medal for 1900 to Professor Gegenbaur, of Heidelberg. The medal was established in 1880, and is awarded

once in ten years for researches in the biological sciences, having hitherto been conferred on Professor C. Th. von Siebold and Professor Ernst Haeckel.

PROFESSOR E. A. SCHÄFER, of the University of Edinburgh, was presented, on January 30th, with a testimonial by his former pupils at University College, London. The presentation took the form of silver plate and a sum of money to be used for the foundation of a Schäfer physiological research medal.

PROFESSOR MATHIAS DUVAL, of the École de Médecine at Paris, who has been obliged by the condition of his eyes to forego work for two years, has undergone a successful operation. We understand that he will now be able to resume his important embryological researches, which have already given him a foremost place among the embryologists of the world.

AT a meeting of the trustees of the American Museum of Natural History, held on February 11th, the formal announcement was made of the gift to the Museum by Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan of the Tiffany collection of gems and of the famous Bement collection of minerals. Another very important gift is the ethnological collection brought together for the past twenty-five years by Andrew Ellicott Douglas. Mr. William E. Dodge was elected first vice-president of the Museum. Professor Henry F. Osborn was elected a trustee and second vice-president.

PROFESSOR J. PLAYFAIR McMURRICH, of the Medical Department of the University of Michigan, has been asked by the Government of the Netherlands to take charge of, and make a report on, a collection of actinians secured from the neighborhood of the Malay Archipelago. The collection includes specimens from along the shore and from the deep sea.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM DEWITT ALEXANDER, head of the survey department of Hawaii, has resigned to accept a position on the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. He will have charge of that branch of the department which has to deal with Hawaii and Samoa.

DR. JOHN S. BILLINGS, JR., has resigned his position of instructor in clinical microscopy in the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, and has become assistant