

the Statistical Study of the Problems of Evolution,' should be published, in the first instance, quarterly, four numbers forming a volume. It is hoped that it will include (a) memoirs on variation, inheritance and selection in animals and plants, based upon the examination of statistically large numbers of specimens (this will of course include statistical investigations in anthropometry); (b) those developments of statistical theory which are applicable to biological problems; and (c) abstracts of memoirs, dealing with these subjects, which are published elsewhere. It is proposed to include memoirs written in English, German, French or Italian.

The expense of such a journal would be at first considerable, and it cannot be undertaken without some promise of support. Those willing to assist in supporting such a journal are requested to write either to Professor Karl Pearson, F.R.S., University College, London, or Professor W. F. R. Weldon, F.R.S., Merton Lea, Oxford, agreeing to purchase the first volume of *Biometrika* at the price of 30 shillings.

RESIGNATIONS FROM THE SCHOOL OF PEDAGOGY NEW YORK UNIVERSITY.

WE published last week a letter from Professors Weir, Buchner and Judd announcing their resignation from the School of Pedagogy, New York University. In view of comments made by Chancellor MacCracken, we have been asked to publish the following statement signed by Professors Weir, Buchner and Judd:

There have been long-continued disagreements within the Faculty of Pedagogy on points of general policy. The advice of the Chancellor on these matters could not be obtained, as the Chancellor has declined to attend Faculty meetings for more than a year, and has not attended more than two or three times during the last three years. Appeals made to the authorities of the University on matters of general policy were not taken up for definite consideration until in February of this year when two long hearings were held before a Council Committee, consisting of Chancellor H. M. MacCracken, Dr. George Alexander, Chairman; Willis Fletcher Johnson, Secretary; Henry Van Schaick, and a number of ladies of the woman's advisory committee, including Mrs.

Henry Draper, Miss Helen M. Gould, and Mrs. Eugene Smith. These hearings dealt with questions of administration and curriculum.

After these two hearings and after a meeting of the council of the University on March 4th, the Chancellor announced to the members of the faculty that he had accepted the resignation of the dean of the School of Pedagogy from the deanship. The Chancellor also sent word to one of the members of the faculty that the general theory of reconstruction would make it necessary to vacate his chair in order to make room for a new Dean. The member who was thus to be superseded made an effort to find out the grounds of this theory of reconstruction. He was informed that no criticisms of his academic work and conduct had been communicated to the Chancellor. The only semblance of a reason for the theory appeared in certain vague and indefinite impressions entertained by some of the members of the woman's advisory committee. The other two members of the faculty made an effort to find out the grounds of this theory of reconstruction. They were unable to find reasons other than those already stated, excepting the additional fact that the Chancellor had not in the beginning favored the appointment of this professor. They accordingly entered a vigorous protest, both in person and by correspondence, to the Chancellor and Dr. George Alexander, against what they regarded as an unwarranted and unjust line of action.

The committee of the council, including the members of the woman's advisory committee, then held on April 4th a meeting, and passed a resolution to recommend to the Council that the chairs of all professors of the Faculty of Pedagogy, not vacated by resignation, be declared vacant by the council at its May meeting. It should be noted that this resolution applies not merely to the three professors who have resigned, but to all professors in the School of Pedagogy.

On learning of this action on the part of the Council Committee, the members of the faculty made an effort to get into correspondence with the Chancellor and secure some statement of the grounds of this latest action. The Chancellor withheld the information requested; where-

upon, Professors Weir, Buchner, and Judd resigned from the University. The following is a copy of the resignation sent by each of the professors to the Chancellor :

April 12th.

To the Chancellor of New York University :

Because of long-continued dissatisfaction with the administration of the School of Pedagogy, and because I have learned that the repeated efforts of certain members of the faculty to improve this administration, while they have met with a sufficient degree of official approval to mark these efforts as thoroughly justifiable, have, notwithstanding, resulted in a resolution on the part of a Committee of the University Council to recommend that the chairs of all Professors of the School of Pedagogy be vacated at the May meeting of the Council, I therefore resign my professorship in the University, this resignation to take effect at the close of this university year.

I respectfully request that an official statement of the fact, which has been at different times informally stated, that my academic work and conduct as a professor in the University have been satisfactory, be sent to me at once.

A MEETING of students and alumni of the School of Pedagogy was held in the University Building, Washington Square, on April 20th, and the following resolution was passed :

To the Council of the New York University :

We, the former and present students of the School of Pedagogy of New York University, having learned through the public press of the resignations of Professors Weir, Buchner and Judd from the Faculty of the School of Pedagogy :

Hereby beg leave to express our firm belief that the loss of these professors from the Faculty will greatly weaken public confidence in the institution, and will undoubtedly impair its usefulness in the future. These gentlemen are everywhere recognized as thorough scholars, inspiring instructors, and men of sound judgment and impressive personality.

We beg leave, therefore, to express our further conviction that the University will do itself and the educational public of this city a service by securing, if possible, a withdrawal of these resignations.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. ALEXANDER AGASSIZ, of Cambridge, Mass., has been elected president of the National Academy of Sciences. The further transactions of the Academy are recorded in a special article published above.

PROFESSOR G. L. GOODALE, of Harvard University, has been appointed delegate from the National Academy of Sciences to the International Association of Academies meeting in Paris.

PROFESSOR E. B. WILSON, of Columbia University, has been invited to deliver the annual address before the Medical School of Yale University.

PRESIDENT ELIOT, of Harvard University, is expected to return to Cambridge this week. He has been for the past three months in Bermuda and the West Indies.

WE learn from the *Botanical Gazette* that a handsome silver loving cup was presented by a number of teachers to Mr. Thomas Meehan, the veteran horticulturist and botanist of Philadelphia, on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday.

DR. JAMES E. TALMAGE, professor of geology in the University of Utah, has been elected a life associate in the Philosophical Society of Great Britain, otherwise known as the Victoria Institute, and also a corresponding member of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.

MR. L. DE NICÉVILLE has been appointed entomologist in the Indian Museum, Calcutta.

WE learn from *Nature* that Professor Eugen Warming and Dr. Victor Madsen have been appointed to the Danish Geological Survey, and that Dr. H. Topsøe has retired from the Survey.

THE Adams prize of Cambridge University for the present year has been awarded to Mr. H. M. MacDonald, of Clare College, for a paper on 'Electric Waves.'

MR. C. E. BORCHGREVINK, the Antarctic explorer, has been created a Knight of the Order of St. Olaf by King Oscar of Sweden and Norway.

DR. ROBERT E. MORITZ, of the University of Nebraska, has received leave of absence for next year which he will spend in study in Germany.

PROFESSOR WATASÉ informs us that at the meeting of the Zoological Society of Tokio, held at the Zoological Institute of the University of Tokio, March 15, 1901, Professor Bashford Dean, of Columbia University, gave an account of his trip to the Philippines. Among others,