

THE U. S. Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture, has sent an expedition to Athabasca and Great Slave Lakes. The chief object is the collection of information and specimens illustrating the geographic distribution of mammals, birds, trees and shrubs in the region. The expedition is in charge of Edward A. Preble. Last year Mr. Preble was sent to Hudson Bay on a similar mission.

REUTER'S correspondent in Berlin, telegraphing on June 1, says: The evening papers state that the international negotiations which have been proceeding with reference to the international protection of birds have now been concluded, and that the imperial chancellor has forwarded the draft of the international convention on this subject to the federal council with a recommendation that Germany should subscribe to it.

THE Chamber of Commerce of Cambridge-shire, has unanimously passed a resolution declaring that it is desirable for the British government to establish an official seed-testing station.

THE Antarctic exploring vessel *Discovery* left Dundee for London on June 3. A successor to Professor Gregory as leader of the scientific staff has not, we understand, yet been appointed.

THE Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research was incorporated in New York State on June 13. The directors for the first year, as we have already stated, are: William H. Welch, of Baltimore, T. Mitchell Prudden, C. A. Herter, L. Emmett Holt, and Hermann W. Biggs, of New York; Simon Flexner, of Philadelphia, and Theobald Smith, of Boston.

A COMMISSION, consisting of Sir T. Lauder Brunton, Dr. T. Stevenson, Mr. A. G. Salamon, Dr. A. P. Luff, Dr. Samuel Buckley and Mr. Fletcher Moulton, K.C., M.P., appointed by the Manchester Brewer's Central Association to investigate the causes of the beer poisoning that has recently occurred in Great Britain has made its report. The Commissioners say: "It is clear that the most frequent source of arsenical contamination in beer is the use of malt which has been kiln-dried or malted with improper fuel containing arsenic. At the same

time the experience of the late outbreak has shown that precautions must be taken against the presence of arsenic in brewing sugars and other materials (except, perhaps, malt adjuncts) on account of the serious consequences of any carelessness in manufacture which might introduce arsenic. Accordingly, we have considered what steps should in future be taken by brewers to protect themselves from any repetition of the recent disasters. We recommend that brewers should make it a rule to require a written guarantee of freedom from arsenic with all purchases of brewing materials of every kind. In addition to this we recommend that brewers should from time to time test the purity of their beer in respect of arsenic. The fact that yeast has a special affinity for arsenic affords an excellent method of demonstrating the purity of the materials used. If the yeast be tested for arsenic, it will readily show whether the wort is contaminated, for it will be many times richer in arsenic than the wort itself. It thus forms an excellent indicator of the presence of arsenic. In addition to frequent testing of the yeast, it would be advisable for the brewers to take control tests from time to time of their brewing sugars, finings and other materials."

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE bills in the Michigan Legislature to reduce the quarter-mill tax levied for the benefit of the university have been defeated. The annual income from this tax is now approximately \$275,000, an increase over last year of \$50,000.

THE alumni of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have subscribed \$100,000 for a gymnasium, to be erected as a memorial to the late President Walker. Over 15,000 former and present students have sent subscriptions.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has received an anonymous gift of \$100,000 for the establishment of a department for the study of Chinese institutions, language and history.

PRESIDENT PATTON announced at the commencement exercises of Princeton University that the authorities of the university had received \$50,000 for an endowment fund for the library and \$10,000 to establish a fellow-

ship in rhetoric. He also said that \$150,000 of the \$200,000 necessary for the erection of a new gymnasium had been insured by the alumni.

THE University of Chicago has received \$3,000 by the will of Marie J. Mergier to establish a scholarship in physiology.

MRS. CAROLINE STANNARD TILTON, of New Orleans, has given \$50,000 for a Tilton Memorial Library Building at Tulane University.

It has now become known that Mr. and Mrs. James Speyer are the donors of the \$100,000 for the experimental school of Teachers College, Columbia University. A site has been purchased near Amsterdam Avenue and 128th Street, and plans for the building, prepared by Mr. A. E. Josselyn, have been accepted.

LINCOLN COLLEGE and Decatur Industrial College have united, and will hereafter be called Milliken University, in recognition of a gift of \$150,000 from Mr. James Milliken. Mr. A. R. Taylor has resigned the presidency of the State Normal College at Emporia, to become president of this institution.

THE faculty of the University of South Dakota decided, by practically a unanimous vote, several months ago, that there should hereafter be but one degree granted for all courses of work, viz., the Bachelor of Arts. Heretofore there have been three degrees granted, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Philosophy. This step was taken independently of the similar action by the Universities of Michigan and Minnesota which we recently reported.

THE Yale Forest School has thirty-five applications for its summer session, which will be held next month at Milford, Pa.

A. D. COLE, professor of physics and chemistry in Denison University, has been called to a chair of physics in the Ohio State University. His position at Denison has been filled by the appointment of Professor Clark Chamberlin, of Colby College, Me.

W. G. TIGHT, professor of geology for thirteen years in Denison University, and editor of the *Bulletin of the Scientific Laboratories*, has been elected to the presidency and professorship of geology in the University of New Mexico.

H. C. MORENE, a fellow at Clark University, has been appointed assistant professor of mathematics in Leland Stanford University.

PROFESSOR F. C. FRENCH has resigned the chair of philosophy at Vassar College, and Dr. H. Heath Bawden has been appointed associate professor of philosophy in the institution.

FREDERICK E. BOLTON, PH.D. (Clark) has been promoted to the head of the department of pedagogy in the State University of Iowa, succeeding Professor J. J. McConnell who has resigned to accept the superintendency of schools at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

PROFESSOR EUGENE HAANEL has resigned the chair of physics in Syracuse University to accept an appointment as superintendent of mines of Canada.

DR. SHEPHERD IVORY FRANZ, assistant in physiology in the Harvard Medical School, has been appointed instructor in physiology at Dartmouth College. He will give courses both in the Academic Department and in the Medical College.

DR. MARGARET FLOY WASHBURN, warden of Sage College, has been appointed to a lectureship in psychology in Cornell University.

PAUL GOODE, who has been head of the department of Geography at the Normal School, Charleston, Ill., since its foundation, has recently received the degree of Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania and has been appointed instructor in geography in the same institution.

DR. HERMAN C. COOPER, now of Lincoln, Nebraska, has been elected instructor in the department of chemistry of Syracuse University.

SANFORD BELL, a Clark University student, will be temporary instructor in psychology and pedagogy at Mount Holyoke College next year.

THE newly created third chair of zoology at the Imperial University of Tokio has been placed under the charge of Professor S. Watasé.

M. TH. RIBOT, professor of experimental and comparative psychology at the Collège de France and editor of the *Revue Philosophique*, will retire from his chair on a pension at the end of the present academic year.