

Octave Chanute, an eminent American engineer, whose enthusiasm and great knowledge have stimulated the work of Herring, Hufaker, the Wrights and many others, and whose advice and supervision was freely given in perfecting the machine which has finally succeeded.

H. H. CLAYTON.

#### THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE OF SCIENCE.

AT the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the council resolved to add the vice-presidents of the association and the permanent secretary to the editorial committee of SCIENCE. The vice-presidents of the association, each of whom is chairman of one of the ten sections, represent the sciences covered by the journal, and are always among the most efficient and active men of science of the country. Their cooperation during their term of office will greatly promote the interests of the association and of the journal. We also hope to secure the cooperation of several other men of science in order that all branches of science and all parts of the country may be adequately represented. The members of the committee who have had control of the journal during the nine years of the new series will of course remain as heretofore. SCIENCE is now so well established as the representative organ of American men of science that it seems unnecessary to print each week the names of the editorial committee and of the responsible editor.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

WE hope to publish next week the official report of the St. Louis meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and as soon as possible the reports of the societies meeting in affiliation with it and of the other societies that met during convocation week at Philadelphia and elsewhere. Professor Farlow, of Harvard University, the eminent botanist, was elected president of the association, and vice-presidents were elected as follows: Professor Alexander Ziwet, of the University of Michigan, Section of Mathe-

matics and Astronomy; Professor W. F. Magie, Princeton University, Section of Physics; Professor C. P. Kinnicutt, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Section of Chemistry; Professor D. S. Jacobus, Stevens Institute of Technology, Section of Mechanical Science and Engineering; Professor E. A. Smith, University of Alabama, Section of Geology and Geography; Dr. C. Hart Merriam, U. S. Biological Survey, Section of Zoology; Professor B. L. Robinson, Harvard University, Section of Botany; Dr. Walter Hough, U. S. National Museum, Section of Anthropology; Martin A. Knapp, Interstate Commission of Commerce, Section of Social and Economic Science. President C. S. Howe, Case School of Applied Science, was elected secretary of the council, and Professor C. A. Waldo, Purdue University, general secretary. The association will meet next year at Philadelphia and the following year at New Orleans.

THE American Society of Naturalists at the annual meeting in St. Louis last week elected officers as follows: *President*, E. L. Mark, Harvard University; *vice-president for the Eastern Section*, Franklin P. Mall, the Johns Hopkins University; *vice-president for the Central Section*, John M. Coulter, of the University of Chicago; *secretary*, Chas. B. Davenport, University of Chicago; *treasurer*, Hermann von Schrenk, Missouri Botanical Garden and the Bureau of Forestry; *additional members of the executive committee*, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Columbia University, and Professor William Trelease, Missouri Botanical Garden. The program of the Naturalists at St. Louis was similar to that of recent years. On Tuesday evening President David Starr Jordan, Stanford University, gave an illustrated lecture on 'The Resources of the Sea,' which was followed by a smoker at the University Club. On Wednesday afternoon the annual discussion was held, the subject being 'What kind of degrees should be conferred for scientific work?' the opening speakers being President Jordan, President Van Hise, Professor Cattell and Professor Coulter. The annual dinner was held on Tuesday evening at the Mercantile Club, and was followed by the address of the presi-

dent, Director William Trelease, of the Missouri Botanical Garden, whose subject was 'Critical Periods in the Life of a Naturalist.' We hope to publish subsequently this address and the discussion.

At the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America at St. Louis, Professor H. L. Fairchild, University of Rochester, was elected president; Professor J. C. Branner, Stanford University, secretary, and Professor I. C. White, University of West Virginia, treasurer.

At the twelfth annual meeting of the American Psychological Association held at St. Louis last week, Professor William James was elected president. This is the only occasion on which a past president has been reelected president of the association. Professor Livingston Farrand, Columbia University, will continue as secretary, and the members of the executive committee elected to succeed the retiring members, Professor John Dewey, of the University of Chicago, and Professor J. Mark Baldwin, of the Johns Hopkins University, were Professor Hugo Münsterberg, of Harvard University, and Dr. Henry Rutgers Marshall, of New York City.

At the third annual meeting of the American Philosophical Association, held at Princeton on December 29, 30 and 31, Professor G. T. Ladd, of Yale University, was elected president; Professor Frank Thilly, of the University of Missouri, vice-president, and Professor H. N. Gardiner, of Smith College, secretary-treasurer. The new members of the executive committee are Professor James H. Tufts, University of Chicago, and Professor H. Heath Bawden, Vassar College.

OFFICERS of the New York Academy of Sciences have been elected as follows: *President*, Edmund B. Wilson. *Vice-presidents*: Section of Geology and Mineralogy, James F. Kemp; Section of Biology, L. M. Underwood; Section of Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry, Chas. Lane Poor; Section of Anthropology and Psychology, F. J. E. Woodbridge. *Corresponding secretary*, Richard E. Dodge. *Recording secretary*, Henry E. Crampton. *Treasurer*, Charles F. Cox. *Librarian*, Ralph W.

Tower. *Editor*, Chas. Lane Poor. *Councilors* (to serve three years), Livingston Farrand, E. O. Hovey. *Finance committee*, John H. Hinton, C. A. Post, Henry F. Osborn.

It is announced that Mr. John Morley will deliver the principal address at the opening of the Technical Institution, founded at Pittsburgh by Mr. Carnegie, in the autumn of 1904.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY has conferred the degree of D.C.L. on Mr. Henry Wilde, F.R.S., inventor of the dynamo electric machine. Mr. Wilde is the founder of the Wilde Readership in Mental Philosophy and of the John Locke scholarship on the same subject.

THE large gold medal for services rendered to art and science has been awarded by the German government to Professor Paul Ehrlich, director of the Imperial Institute of Experimental Therapeutics at Frankfurt.

MR. REGINALD INNES POCOCK, F.Z.S., assistant at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, has been appointed resident superintendent of the Gardens of the London Zoological Society. Mr. Pocock entered on his duties on January 1, 1904.

THE United States Archeological and Ethnological Commission met at the State Department on December 21. Dr. W. J. McGee, the anthropologist of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, is chairman of the commission. The other members are Mr. Volney W. Fost, of Chicago, and Professor Francis B. Kelsey, professor of Latin language and literature, the University of Michigan.

MR. GURDON TRUMBULL, the well-known artist and ornithologist, died in Hartford, Conn., on December 28, in the sixty-third year of his age.

A FIRE, on December 27, in the building in Washington occupied by the U. S. Geological Survey caused a loss estimated at \$15,000, including the destruction of some valuable maps and records.

THE *Matin* announces that it has placed the sum of 30,000*f.* at the disposal of Professor d'Arsonval in order to enable him to continue his researches in connection with the properties of radium.

THE U. S. Geological Survey will make an exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis which will illustrate the survey's methods of work and the products of its various branches as completely as the space placed at its disposal will permit. Small pamphlets containing descriptions of the methods of work pursued by the different branches, divisions, and sections of the survey will be published for distribution during the exposition.

SECRETARY CORTELYOU has recommended the establishment at Washington under the Bureau of Fisheries of an aquarium that shall surpass in importance any similar institution.

REUTER'S AGENCY is informed that a scientific expedition, which has been organized by the anthropological section of the St. Louis Exhibition, is about to leave England for Central Africa under the direction of Mr. S. P. Verner, who landed a few days ago from New York. Since his arrival in England Mr. Verner has been to Brussels to consult with the authorities there regarding his expedition. With reference to his journey Mr. Verner says: "In order to get at the aboriginal life as little changed as possible by the inroads of civilization it is desired to go entirely out of the track of previous explorers, as well as of all settlers, and to enter the most untouched region to which access can be obtained. One of these regions is that between the Congo and Zambesi valleys, to the north of Livingstone's and the south of Stanley's journeys. This territory embraces, among others, the vast Lunda Plateau. It is into this and contiguous territories that the expedition is proceeding. The region is 1,500 miles from the West Coast. The fact that the enterprise leads into a country of cannibals and savages, and that the attainment of our object requires diplomacy and tact in dealing with the natives, makes the mission one of difficulty and hazard. The time at its disposal also will make it, if successful, a notable exploit. To secure permission and cooperation of the European governments controlling the territories in question representations are being made by the government of the United States. Our base of operations will be from the capital of Chief

Ndombe, paramount chieftain of the Lunda tribes, at the head of navigation of the Kassai river, the largest southern tributary of the Congo, from which place an effort will be made to penetrate the interior. Ndombe is one of the most remarkable of living African rulers. He is peculiar for being of a bright copper color, as are his family, although there has been no known white blood in his ancestry. He is also a firm friend of the white man, having signified his assent to white suzerainty over his domain, and having instructed his people to recognize the authority of the foreigners. His general jurisdiction is very extensive, and, including federated and associated tribes, may be said to include several million people over a territory of several hundred thousand square miles. His own immediate family and their blood relations are known as the Bakwampesh, a word almost exactly equivalent to 'aristocracy.' In his territory are tribes of pygmies, of cannibals, and the last remnant of the once powerful transcontinental slave-traders, the Bimbadi. The scientific interest attaching to this expedition arises from the fact that it has lately become strongly suspected that the most primitive forms of the human race are to be found in remote Africa, the oldest region known where the native life has been longest undisturbed by outside influences. It is desirable to record the conditions now existent there and to obtain specimens of the arts and products of the people before they have changed their aboriginal ways for the innovations of rapidly approaching civilization."

MR. ERNEST ALYSCOGHE FLOYER, inspector-general of Egyptian telegraphs, died at Cairo on December 1 from heart disease, at the age of fifty-one years. We learn from the *London Times* that Mr. Floyer was educated at the Charterhouse, receiving in 1869 an appointment in the Indian Telegraph Service. In 1876 he received his first long leave, and started, unaided and alone, for the unexplored interior of Baluchistan. His observations and surveys on this difficult and dangerous journey were of considerable geographical interest. He returned to London in the same year, and sub-

sequently published an account of his travels in a work entitled 'Unexplored Baluchistan.' In the same year (1876) he was appointed inspector-general of Egyptian telegraphs. In 1887 he surveyed, and described in the 'Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society,' 'Two Routes in the Eastern Desert of Egypt,' and later described the results of an expedition to the same desert in an official publication entitled 'Etude sur la Nord-Etbai.' It was during this journey that he rediscovered the ancient emerald mines of the Egyptians, and his maps and observations have been the basis for the subsequent exploitation of minerals in this region. During the last decade Mr. Floyer devoted much attention to the reclamation, by judicious planting, of the land which had been lost to cultivation by the encroachment of drifting sand upon the western border of the Delta.

It is proposed to establish under the auspices of the International Sanitary Conference an international sanitary bureau for the collection of information respecting infectious diseases, such as plague, cholera and yellow fever, and also for the harmonious working of those sanitary regulations in the east which have so greatly contributed within the last five years to the preservation of public health, as well as to the benefit of trade, by the suppression of the old quarantine system. If the movement is successful the bureau will have its headquarters in Paris.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE will of the late Washington Corrington, of Peoria, Ill., leaves the entire estate, valued at \$750,000, for the founding of an educational institution to be known as Corrington Institute and University. The estate is to be managed by trustees until it reaches \$1,500,000, when work is to be begun at Mr. Corrington's late home, just outside the limits of Peoria. Professor John M. Coulter, of the University of Chicago, is one of the trustees.

By the will of the late Ruth A. Hoar, the Worcester Polytechnic Institute receives \$5,-

000 and Clark University will ultimately receive \$30,000.

PALMER UNIVERSITY, at Muncie, Ind., has secured the \$100,000 necessary to obtain the endowment of \$100,000 left by the late F. A. Palmer.

DR. EDWARD HITCHCOCK, JR., for several years professor of physical culture and hygiene and director of the gymnasium at Cornell University, has resigned.

PROFESSOR W. A. S. HEWINS, M.A., having resigned the post of director of the London School of Economics and Political Science, the senate has appointed in his place Mr. H. J. Mackinder, M.A., lecturer in economic geography at that institution. Mr. Mackinder has lately resigned the principalship of University College, Reading, but will continue his lectures on economic geography in the University of London and historical geography in the University of Oxford.

MR. WILLIAM RAVENSCROFT HUGHES, B.A., has been elected to a fellowship in Jesus College, Cambridge University. Mr. Hughes was fifth wrangler in the mathematical tripos, 1902.

THE council of King's College, London, has appointed to the chair of mathematics Mr. S. A. F. White, M.A., of Wadham College, Oxford, who has been demonstrator in natural philosophy in King's College since 1895. The council has also appointed Mr. E. F. Herroun assistant professor of physics, and Mr. J. B. Dale, M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, assistant professor of mathematics.

SIR JOHN SCOTT BURDON-SANDERSON, M.A., D.M., hon. fellow of Magdalen, and Regius professor of medicine at Oxford University, has placed his resignation of the professorship in the hands of the vice-chancellor. Sir John Burdon-Sanderson was appointed to the regius professorship, to which is annexed the Aldrichian professorship of the practice of medicine, in 1895, upon the resignation of the late Sir Henry Acland, who had occupied the chair for thirty-eight years. Professor Burdon-Sanderson was the first occupant of the Waynflete chair of physiology, to which he was appointed in 1883, his successor being the present professor, Dr. Gotch.