

the Weather Bureau. Over half of the 'Bulletin' is taken up with local weather signs for different Weather Bureau stations; these signs being such as the following: winds which bring precipitation; relation of pressure changes to precipitation; directions of high and of warm winds; conditions for frost, etc. In other words, these are type local weather conditions, which will doubtless prove useful to many persons. These local weather signs are illustrated by a series of seasonal charts, showing, for the United States, the directions of the rain winds; the direction of movement of cirrus or cirro-stratus clouds before rain, and the number of hours they appear before rain; the barometer heights preceding precipitation, and the wind direction during periods of high and of low temperature.

R. DEC. WARD.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

#### ELIZABETH THOMPSON SCIENCE FUND.

THE 29th meeting of the board of trustees was held at the Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass., on February 5. The following officers were elected:

*President*—Henry P. Bowditch.

*Treasurer*—Charles S. Rackemann.

*Secretary*—Charles S. Minot.

The report of the treasurer, showing a balance of income on hand of \$1,788.29, was read and accepted.

The secretary presented reports of progress from the holders of various grants, the work for which is not yet completed, as follows:

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|---------------------|----------------------|
| No. 27. E. Hartwig. | No. 98. J. Weinzirl. |
| 60. F. Kruger.      | 99. H. S. Grindley.  |
| 65. O. Lubarsch.    | 100. H. H. Field.    |
| 71. A. Nicolas.     | 101. T. A. Jaggar.   |
| 73. J. von Kennell. | 102. E. O. Jordan.   |
| 94. A. M. Reese.    | 103. E. Anding.      |
| 96. H. E. Crampton. | 104. W. P. Bradley.  |
| 97. F. W. Bancroft. | 106. W. Valentiner.  |

Professor Belopolsky having completed and published the work under grant No. 76, it was voted to close the record of that grant.

The secretary reported that 59 applications had been received for the consideration of the board, the total amount asked for being nearly

\$10,000. Under these circumstances it became necessary to decline, not only applications of minor interest, but also several which in the opinion of the board were of exceptional merit and highly deserving of encouragement and support.

It was voted to make the following new grants:

No. 107. \$300 to Professor Morris W. Travers, London, England, for researches on the absolute scale of temperature, by experiments with liquid hydrogen.

No. 108. \$150 to Professor Benjamin L. Seawell, Warrensburg, Missouri, for study of the taxonomy and ecology of the organisms of freshwater lakes, in relation to fish foods and water supplies.

No. 109. \$40 to Professor A. Nicolas, Nancy, France, for studies on the embryology of reptiles.

No. 110. \$250 to Professor H. S. Grindley, Urbana, Ill., for the separation and purification of the nitrogenous substances of meats.

No. 111. \$200 to Professor R. Hürthle, Breslau, Germany, to determine the relation between pressure and the obliteration of circulation.

No. 112. \$143 to Professor W. J. Moenkhaus, Bloomington, Ind., for studies on the individuality of maternal and paternal chromatin in hybrids.

No. 113. \$50 to S. P. Fergusson, Esq., Hyde Park, Mass., to measure the errors of absorption hygrometers.

No. 114. \$300 to Dr. Werner Rosenthal, Erlangen, Germany, for researches on the Lombardy chicken pest.

No. 115. \$300 to Professor Henry S. Carhart, Ann Arbor, Michigan, for the preparation and study of Clark and Weston standard cells.

CHARLES S. MINOT,

*Secretary.*

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

THE twenty-fourth annual report of the director of the United States Geological Survey, which is now ready for distribution, shows that the several branches of that organization greatly enlarged the scope of their work and increased their activities during the last fiscal year. The period covered is from July 1, 1902, to July 1, 1903, for the work of which congress had appropriated the sum of \$1,377,470.