

BOTANICAL WORK IN THE PHILIPPINES.

SINCE the American occupation a considerable amount of botanical work has been accomplished on the Philippine flora, under the auspices of the insular government, and in the near future, due to the fact that the appointment of an assistant botanist and two collectors was authorized by the civil commission some time ago, the work will be greatly increased.

Shortly after the organization of the Forestry Bureau in May, 1900, some botanical work was undertaken by Regino Garcia, who had been an assistant in the Spanish Forestry Bureau. Little work, however, of lasting value was accomplished in this office. In April, 1902, the Bureau of Agriculture was organized, and Elmer D. Merrill was appointed botanist. In July, 1902, he was also made botanist to the Forestry Bureau, while in July, 1903, he was transferred to the Bureau of Government Laboratories, when an assistant and two collectors were authorized. The object in transferring the work to the Government Laboratories was to get all work of a similar nature into one institution, and organize a thoroughly equipped botanical laboratory. In November, 1903, Dr. E. B. Copeland was appointed assistant botanist, and Mr. A. D. E. Elmer one of the collectors, the second collector not having as yet been appointed.

In the past two years under Mr. Merrill's direction a herbarium, exceeding 8,000 sheets, has been formed and for a large part identified, a well-equipped botanical library has been established and the following publications have been issued: 'Botanical Work in the Philippines,' 'Report on Investigations made in Java in the Year 1902,' 'A Dictionary of the Plant Names of the Philippines,' 'New or Noteworthy Philippine Plants,' 'The American Element in the Philippine Flora.' The first article was published as a bulletin from the Bureau of Agriculture, the second as a bulletin from the Forestry Bureau, and the last three as bulletins from the Bureau of Government Laboratories.

At the present time, in addition to the work on the Philippine flora being prosecuted under the auspices of the Philippine government,

Mr. R. S. Williams is collecting in Luzon for the New York Botanical Garden and Dr. H. Hallier is collecting in Mindanao for the Hamburg Museum. A considerable amount of botanical material was secured by various employees of the Philippine Exposition Board, this material, with the exception of one set retained in the herbarium of the Bureau of Government Laboratories in Manila, having all been forwarded to St. Louis.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

M. HENRI BECQUEREL, professor of physics at the Paris Ecole Polytechnique, has been elected a correspondent of the Berlin Academy of Sciences.

THE University of Chicago has celebrated this week its fiftieth convocation. It has given its LL.D. to five German professors, including Professor Paul Ehrlich, director of the Royal Prussian Institute of Experimental Therapeutics at Frankfort-on-the-Main.

THE Senate of the University of Glasgow has resolved to confer its Doctorate of Laws on Mr. G. F. Deacon, civil engineer, of London; on Mr. J. H. Muirhead, professor of mental and moral philosophy in the University of Birmingham; on Dr. W. Stirling, Brackenbury professor of physiology and histology at Owens College, University of Manchester, and on Sir William Taylor, M.D., director-general of the army medical service.

THE Turin Academy of Science has awarded one half of the Vallauri prize of \$6,000 to Professor Giovanni Battista Grassi, of Rome, in recognition of the value of his researches on malaria.

DR. GEORGE B. PARKIN, representing the trustees of the will of the late Cecil Rhodes, sailed for New York on March 16 to assist in the holding of examinations in the United States and Canada for the Rhodes scholarships at Oxford.

DR. R. O. E. DAVIS, instructor in chemistry in the University of North Carolina, having been granted a year's leave of absence, sails on April 16 for work in the laboratories of Professors Ostwald and van't Hoff.

THE daily papers state that on the French Line steamship *La Savoie*, which arrived from Havre on March 19, was a commission of men of science to study geology and for general scientific research. Professor Googg of the High School of Commerce at Geneva; Lieut. Bourée of the French navy, Commander Massari of the Italian navy, M. Richard, M. de la Burahaye, Count d'Audiffret-Pasquier, and M. Langlois comprise the commission. The officers were granted leave of absence to come to this country.

PROFESSOR H. F. OSBORN has accepted an invitation to give an evening lecture before the British Association at Cambridge, on August 20, and has chosen as his subject 'The Evolution of the Horse.' He will also lecture before the International Zoological Congress at Berne, Switzerland.

PROFESSOR WILDER D. BANCROFT, of Cornell University, lectured before the students of science in the University of North Carolina on the evening of February 11 on 'Physical Chemistry and General Science.' On the morning of the twelfth he gave a lecture to special students in chemistry on 'Physical Chemistry and the Rare Earths.'

PROFESSOR CHARLES S. HASTINGS, of the Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University, lectured at the Woman's College of Baltimore, on March 14. The title of the lecture was 'A Lost Medieval Art,' Professor Hastings treating the subject of stained glass from a scientific standpoint. A reception by the physics department was given after the lecture.

UNDER the auspices of the Henry Phipps Institute for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, at Philadelphia, arrangements have been made with Dr. C. Maragliano, professor in the University of Genoa, and senator in the Italian parliament, to lecture on March 28, on 'The Serum Treatment for Tuberculosis.'

WE learn from *Nature* that a committee has been formed with the object of obtaining subscriptions for a memorial to the late Professor Nicol, in association with the University of Aberdeen, in which he taught for twenty-five years. The form the memorial

should take has not been decided, but a suggestion has been made that if a memorial brass, similar to those erected to the memory of his predecessors, the late Professor Macgillivray and Nicholson, were provided, and placed with them in the University of Aberdeen, the ornithologist, stratigraphist and paleontologist who have brought honor to the university would be fittingly remembered in association with the scene and center of their life work. The secretary and treasurer, to whom subscriptions should be sent, is Dr. W. Mackie, 13 North Street, Elgin.

ARTHUR GREELEY, professor of biology at Washington University, St. Louis, died on March 15 after an operation for appendicitis.

MR. JOHN I. JEGI, B.S. (Chicago, 1896), professor of psychology and physiology in the Milwaukee State Normal School, died at his home in Milwaukee on January 7. Among his publications are 'A Syllabus of Human Physiology' (1901), 'Practical Lessons in Human Physiology' (Macmillan, 1903), and 'A Comparative Study of Auditory and Visual Memory,' in the 'Contributions to Philosophy' of the University of Chicago.

WE regret to record the death of M. F. A. Fouqué, of Paris, the well-known French geologist and mineralogist, on March 7, in his seventy-sixth year.

THE House of Lords has unanimously passed a bill making compulsory the metric system in Great Britain on April 5, 1906, or at such later date as may be directed by an order in council.

THE Washington *Star* states that the Fortifications Board of the War Department, which has appropriated \$50,000 for the aerodrome experiments of Secretary S. P. Langley, has decided not to make further appropriations for this purpose.

THE Russian government has offered a prize of about \$25,000 for the discovery of some method to make alcohol undrinkable.

THE fifteenth annual session of the Biological Laboratory of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences will be held at Cold Spring

Harbor during the coming summer. Regular class work will begin on Wednesday, July 6, and continue for six weeks. Investigators may make arrangements for using the laboratory from the middle of June until the middle of September, or later, if desirous of doing so, but board at the laboratory will not be guaranteed after August 20. Application for admission to the laboratory should be made as early as possible, as the earlier applicants have the choice of rooms in the dormitories, and the number of students receiving instruction is limited to 50. The courses of instruction offered are as follows:

High-school Zoology by Professors C. B. Davenport, S. R. Williams and W. M. Wheeler.

Comparative Anatomy by Professor H. S. Pratt and Dr. D. B. Casteel.

Invertebrate Embryology by Professor H. E. Crampton and W. J. Moenkhaus.

Animal Bionomics and Evolution by Professor Davenport.

Cryptogamic Botany by Professor D. S. Johnson and Mr. A. H. Chivers.

Plant Ecology by Mr. Forrest Shreve, of Johns Hopkins University.

Microscopic Methods by Mrs. Davenport.

Courses in beginning investigations are offered, and advanced investigators are offered free use of rooms at the laboratory. The laboratory fee is \$30 and room and board are furnished for \$6 upward per week. Announcements and further information may be obtained from any of the instructors, or from Professor C. B. Davenport, University of Chicago.

THE annual meeting of the Michigan Ornithological Club will be held at the museum of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, on April 2, 1904, in connection with the meetings of the Michigan Academy of Science.

THE thirty-eighth meeting of the Eastern Association of Physics Teachers was held in the Newton High School building on Saturday, March 19. Professor S. W. Stratton, director of the Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C., read papers on 'The Metric System' and on 'The Equipment of Physical Laboratory Workshops.'

A CONFERENCE of teachers of mathematics, well-attended and representing a large number

of universities, colleges and high schools, was held on February 22, 1904, in Columbus, Ohio. This conference decided to form an association of Ohio teachers of mathematics and appointed committees to arrange for a meeting to complete the organization. This meeting will be held in Columbus at the Ohio State University on April 2, 1904. The conference extended an invitation to the teachers of physics and chemistry in Ohio to meet in Columbus with the teachers of mathematics to form a similar organization, with the suggestion that these several bodies be related in some desirable way under the name of 'The Association of Ohio Teachers of Mathematics and Science.'

THE fifteenth International Medical Congress will meet at Lisbon April 19-26, 1906.

WE learn from *The Geographical Journal* that a project has lately been set on foot for the bringing together into one building of all the scientific societies which have their headquarters in Edinburgh, and a meeting of the fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in support of the proposed scheme was held in the society's rooms on November 26 last, the subject being introduced by a speech by Sir John Murray. The Royal Society occupies a portion of the building known as the Royal Institution, which it shares at present with other public bodies, including the Board of Fishery, the School of Art and the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the whole being under the general control of the Board of Manufactures. It has long been thought that the building should be exclusively devoted to scientific purposes, thus, on the one hand, securing a community of interests on the part of all its users, and, on the other, facilitating the work of scientific research by the centralization thus afforded and the avoidance of the dissipation of energy which is to a certain extent the result of the present separation of the societies. It is held that, were the whole building given up to their use, it would be possible to find space for the housing of all the several libraries, including those of the Scottish Geographical and Meteorological Societies, besides allotting to each the rooms required for other purposes, and leaving the

large central hall available for scientific demonstrations, lectures and the like. The proposal found warm support at the meeting alluded to, and a resolution in furtherance of the above-mentioned aims was unanimously adopted.

THE *British Medical Journal* states that a health resort is to be established in Lapland. It is proposed to erect a sanatorium on the shores of Lake Torne, a long and beautiful sheet of water at Wassijauve, near the end of the Ofote Railroad. That railroad, it may be mentioned, has only one station in a distance of 121 miles. There is no human dwelling near that station, which is on the line between Sweden and Norway, and was erected solely for the requirements of the Customs Office. Except for a small settlement at Wassijauve, the only sign of human existence in the district is the occasional passage of a few Laplanders with their herds of reindeer. Apart from the scenery, the inmates of the Arctic sanatorium will have no external object of interest but a scientific station which has been erected with the help of private subscriptions by men of science. The work pursued at the station includes biological, geological, botanical and entomological, and other investigations conducted during the summer, and meteorological, magnetic and other observations made at all seasons. The station is a solidly built block-house containing seven rooms, and it is proposed to build the sanatorium in the same way.

THE *Scottish Geographical Magazine* reports that the 'Société Belge d'Astronomie,' has announced a scheme for the publication of a monograph on volcanoes. This will consist of an atlas containing a general map on the scale of 1:40,000,000, and ten regional maps on the scale of 1:2,000,000, illustrating the general distribution of volcanoes, together with a notice, detailed descriptive tables and block-maps in the text. It is estimated that the text and tables together will occupy about 300 pages, large 8vo. The undertaking will be under the charge of M. Elisée Reclus. In order that the success of this undertaking may be assured, subscriptions are asked for in advance. A subscription of 25 francs will

entitle the subscriber to one ordinary copy of the atlas, and one of 100 francs to two copies printed on special paper and numbered. Communications should be addressed to the Society at 21 Rue des Chevaliers, Brussels.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

SIR DONALD CURRIE has given £100,000 to University College and London University. It is intended with this sum to build a school of advanced medicine.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has given \$50,000 to Kenyon College to endow a professorship of economics to be named for Edwin M. Stanton, three years a student of Kenyon, who once said: "If I am anything or have done anything in the way of usefulness, I owe it to Kenyon College." The gift is said to be due to an interview with the late Senator Hanna when sick, who himself had given \$50,000 to Kenyon College for a dormitory just now finished.

MR. CARNEGIE has also made a conditional gift of \$50,000 to Mt. Holyoke College, the understanding being that the friends of the institution should raise a like amount before June 1. No stipulations are made regarding the use of the money, but it is said that a new library is contemplated.

PLANS have been accepted for the science building given to Rochester University by Mr. George Eastman, of Rochester, at a cost of \$60,000, the construction of which will be begun during the summer.

THE new medical laboratories of the University of Pennsylvania will be dedicated on June 11. The laboratories cost \$700,000. The principal addresses will be delivered by Dr. H. P. Bowditch, professor of physiology at the Harvard Medical School; Dr. R. H. Chittenden, director of the Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University; Dr. George Dock, professor of medicine at the University of Michigan, and Dr. Horatio C. Wood, professor of materia medica and pharmacy at the University of Pennsylvania.

It is reported that a plan has been suggested to unite the Columbian and American Universities of the District of Columbia and the