

ography including 89 titles. It constitutes a valuable addition to our knowledge of the embryology of a family whose place in the system of plants is still in doubt.

#### A HELPFUL BULLETIN.

THE office of experiment stations of the United States Department of Agriculture has issued a bulletin (No. 2) consisting of an outline of a lecture on 'Potato Diseases and their Treatment,' for the use of farmers' institute lecturers. It was prepared by F. C. Stewart and H. J. Eustace, of the New York Experiment Station. It contains summaries of our knowledge of the most important diseases which affect the potato in the United States. The descriptions are given in non-technical language, and ought to convince every botanist of the possibility of treating quite difficult subjects in plain English. Following the description of diseases, is an admirable chapter on spraying and other preventive measures. A very useful bibliography is added in an appendix.

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#### THE NOBEL PRIZES.

IN a cablegram from Stockholm to the London *Times*, dated December 10, further details are given in regard to the Nobel prizes.

The prize for physics has been awarded to Lord Rayleigh, professor of natural philosophy at the Royal Institute. The chemistry prize is conferred upon Sir William Ramsay, professor of chemistry at University College. M. Pavloff, professor at the Military Academy of Medicine at St. Petersburg, receives the prize for physiology and medicine. The literature prize is divided between M. Mistral, the Provençal poet, and Don Jose Echegaray, the Spanish dramatist. The peace prize has been awarded to the Institute of International Law.

The distribution of the Nobel prizes took place in the great hall of the Academy of Music at Stockholm in the presence of King Oscar. Lord Rayleigh, Professor Ramsay and M. Pavloff received their prizes, together with diplomas and gold medals, in person

from his Majesty, while the prizes awarded to M. Mistral and Don Jose Echegaray, who were unable to be present, were handed to the French and Spanish ministers respectively. The sum of money attaching to each prize amounts to 140,858 kroner (about \$39,000). The Nobel peace prize will be presented by the Norwegian Storting at Christiania.

The distribution of the prizes was followed by a banquet at the Grand Hotel. Covers were laid for 190 guests, the company including the Crown Prince, Prince and Princess Charles, Lord and Lady Rayleigh, Sir William and Lady Ramsay and M. and Mme. Pavloff. Count Mörner, speaking in German, proposed the health of M. Pavloff; Professor Petterson, in English, proposed the health of Sir William Ramsay; and Professor Hasselberg, in Latin, that of Lord Rayleigh.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

At the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held at Philadelphia last week, Professor C. M. Woodward, of Washington University, was elected president for the New Orleans meeting.

At the recent Philadelphia meeting of the American Society of Naturalists, Professor William James, of Harvard University, was elected president. Professor Chas. B. Davenport, of the Cold Spring Laboratory of Experimental Evolution of the Carnegie Institution, and Professor J. M. Coulter, of the University of Chicago, were elected vice-presidents, and Professor W. E. Castle, of Harvard University, secretary.

PROFESSOR MARY WHITON Calkins of Wellesley College, has been elected president and Mr. Wm. Harper Davis, of Lehigh University, secretary, of the American Psychological Association.

PROFESSOR JOHN DEWEY, of Columbia University, has been elected president of the American Philosophical Association.

PROFESSOR S. W. BURNHAM, astronomer at the Yerkes Observatory, has been awarded the Lalande gold medal of the French Academy of Sciences for his researches in astronomy.

PROFESSOR SVANTE ARRHENIUS has been made head of a laboratory for physical chem-