

7. Should the trustees of all institutions, public and private alike, be required by law to file full financial statements with some public authority and publish the same?

8. Should the alumni have some formally recognized place in the scheme of government of the institution? If so, what?

9. Should the student body have formal recognition in the scheme of government by being privileged to appoint representatives to any disciplinary or administrative body?

10. Is it possible to devise uniform methods of bookkeeping and statistics, so as to make comparisons more valuable?

It will be seen that these are all vital questions, indicating difficulties which every board of trustees has to meet. It is believed that every university or college trustee will derive great aid in the performance of his duties by attending this conference and exchanging views on these important topics.

Urbana, in which the University of Illinois is located, forms with its adjoining city, Champaign, a single community of about twenty thousand inhabitants. It is situated 128 miles due south of Chicago, at the junction of three great railway systems, the Illinois Central, the Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland and St. Louis (Big Four), and the Wabash railways, and is thus easy of access from every direction.

Persons desiring to attend this conference should notify the undersigned as soon as possible. Suggestions as to other desirable topics for discussion will be thankfully received. Address:

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#### THE HARVEY SOCIETY.

THE Harvey Society, described by its constitution as 'a society for the diffusion of the knowledge of the medical sciences,' offers the following course of lectures which are to be given under the patronage of the New York Academy of Medicine:

#### FIRST COURSE OF HARVEY SOCIETY LECTURES, 1905-1906.

October 7, Professor Hans Meyer, 'Die Theorie der Narcose' (in German).

October 14, Professor Carl von Noorden, 'Modern Problems of Metabolism.'

November 4, Professor F. G. Novy, 'Trypanosomes.'

November 18, Dr. P. A. Levene, 'Autolysis.'

January 20, Professor W. H. Park, 'A Critical Study of Serum Therapy.'

January 27, Professor Lewellys F. Barker, 'The Neurons.'

February 2, Professor F. S. Lee, 'Fatigue.'

February 9, Professor L. B. Mendel, 'The Formation of Uric Acid.'

February 16, Professor T. H. Morgan, 'The Extent and Limitations of the Power to Regenerate in Man and other Vertebrates.'

February 23, Professor Charles S. Minot, 'On the Nature and Cause of Old Age.'

March 2, Professor J. C. Webster, 'Modern Views regarding Placentation.'

March 9, Professor Theobald Smith, 'Some Phases of Tuberculosis.'

March 16, Professor W. H. Howell, 'The Cause of the Heart Beat.'

The lectures will be held in the Academy of Medicine at half past eight on the above evenings during the winter. In the Sorbonne at Paris courses of lectures by distinguished Frenchmen and men of other lands are given with the object of bringing science before those engaged in practice and art of various pursuits. The aim of the Harvey Society is similar in character. The Harvey Society cordially invites all interested to attend this course.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. W J MCGEE, U. S. Commissioner of the International Archeological and Ethnological Commission, lately chief of the department of anthropology and ethnology of the St. Louis Exposition and ethnologist in charge of the Bureau of American Ethnology, has been appointed managing director of the St. Louis Public Museum.

H. FOSTER BAIN, Ph.D. (Chicago), geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey and formerly assistant state geologist of Iowa, has been appointed state geologist of Illinois.

DR. MELVIL DEWEY has resigned the directorship of the New York State Library and of the Home Education Department. It is expected that a statement may be made later in regard to the causes of Dr. Dewey's resignation and the future of the library school which he has conducted.

DR. HENRY M. WHELPLEY, of the medical department of Washington University, St. Louis, has been elected president of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties.

PROFESSOR S. W. WILLISTON, of the University of Chicago, lectured on 'Ancient Sea Reptiles' at Stanford University on September 19.

PROFESSOR G. H. F. NUTTALL, F.R.S., of Cambridge University, will deliver the opening address of the forthcoming winter session of the London School of Tropical Medicine on October 11.

THE fourteenth annual meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States opens in Detroit on September 26. Among the foreign representatives are Dr. S. Suzuki, surgeon-general of Japan and chief surgeon of the fleets of Admiral Togo; Drs. Ho Kan Yen, of the Chinese Navy; Ying Yung Tsui, of the Chinese Army, and Wang-Hang-Chung, of the South China Army; and representatives from the British, Mexican, Canadian, Guatemalan and other foreign services.

DR. FRIDJOF NANSEN, who has taken a prominent part in the movement to separate Norway from Sweden, is at present in London on a special mission concerned with the status of Norway.

PROFESSOR A. G. CRAMPTON, head of the department of physics at the College of the City of New York, has returned from Spain, where he observed the eclipse of the sun.

THE expedition which Messrs. Teisserenc de Bort and Rotch sent to the tropics for the exploration of the upper air (see SCIENCE, Vol. XXII., p. 58), has returned to France on the steam-yacht *Otaria*, after a cruise of two months, during which latitude 9° N. was

reached. The scientific staff, Messrs Maurice, of Trappes, and Clayton, of Blue Hill Observatory, measured the trajectories of thirteen balloons, ascended two volcanic peaks and obtained further observations of temperature, humidity and wind from twenty kite-flights. There are besides similar data from six kite-flights executed by Mr. Clayton between Boston and Gibraltar. The observations showed the existence of a southerly anti-trade in the tropics, above twelve thousand feet, and of an easterly upper-current in the equatorial region.

THREE expeditions have been sent out by the University of Kansas in the last two years for the collection of vertebrate fossils. In 1904 a party in charge of Mr. H. T. Martin, assistant curator of vertebrate fossils, spent the year in Patagonia collecting from the Santa Cruz formation. During the summer of the same year another party in charge of Professor C. E. McClung, curator of the collections, worked the Cretaceous of western Kansas. A third expedition, having as its personnel Professor C. E. McClung, Mr. H. T. Martin, Mr. W. J. Baumgartner and Mr. R. G. Hoskins, has just returned from a trip to the John Day formations of central Oregon. The result of these collecting trips has been to add materially to the number of vertebrate specimens in the museum.

DR. F. H. SNOW, curator of the entomological collections of the University of Kansas, who for the last thirty years has made annual collecting trips to various parts of the United States, has conducted two expeditions into Texas and Arizona and returned with some thirty thousand specimens, many of which are new to science.

PROFESSOR CHARLES N. GOULD, of the department of geology of the University of Oklahoma, has been granted a year's leave of absence. He expects to spend the year at the University of Nebraska and at the Johns Hopkins University, taking advanced work along certain lines. During his absence the work at the University of Oklahoma will be in charge of Professor E. G. Woodruff.

To mark the centennial of the trip of Robert Fulton's first steamboat in the Hudson River, in October, 1807, the committee on plan and scope of the Fulton Centennial Commission has recommended the construction of a memorial arch in Battery Park and the establishment of a marine museum, on a basis similar to that on which the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History were founded.

GENERAL ISAAC J. WISTAR, of Philadelphia, founder of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology of the University of Pennsylvania, formerly president of the American Philosophical Society, died on September 18, at the age of seventy-eight years.

TOBIAS-ROBERT THALÉN, professor emeritus of physics in the Royal University of Upsala, died on July 27.

THE superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey has received a report from Mr. W. F. Wallis in charge of the Magnetic Observatory, Cheltenham, Maryland, that the recent disastrous earthquake in Italy was recorded by the seismograph at this observatory, on the night of September 7. The principal phases in seventy-fifth meridian mean civil time counting the hours continuously through twenty-four hours, from midnight to midnight are as follows:

	North-South Component.			East-West Component.		
	h	m	s	h	m	s
Beginning.....	21	03	20	21	03	07
Second preliminary tremor..	21	07	37	21	07	43
Beginning principal portion.	21	27	03	21	23	23
End principal portion.....	21	40	32	21	42	04
End.....	21	52	36	21	57	55
Maximum amplitude.....	21	27	18	21	24	13
Multiplying ratio.....	10			10		
Average period of waves:						
Beginning.....	s 9.0			s 15.2		
Principal portion.....	15.3			16.4		
End.....	.....			16.9		
Period of pendulum.....	About 23			About 18		

THE Carnegie Institution sent professors F. Elster and H. Geitel and Herr F. Harms, to Palma to make observations of the electric conditions of the atmosphere during the recent solar eclipse. *Nature* states that by means of

a self-registering electrometer, the variation of atmospheric electricity was photographically recorded, and a series of points of the same curve was taken simultaneously by eye-readings. The ionization of the air was studied, and exact measurements of the intensity of the solar radiation within the short wave-lengths were carried out. The observations, like all others in Spain, suffered from the bad weather conditions. On the day of the eclipse rain fell during the morning; consequently it can not be considered as undisturbed with regard to atmospheric electricity. The measurements of the solar radiation were possible in a continuous series only from the first contact to the end of totality; the decrease of illumination, therefore, was determined in a satisfactory manner and without any gaps. On the other hand, clouds prevented any reading being taken during the increase of light after totality.

THE U. S. Geological Survey has in hand the investigation of curious phenomena known as 'blowing' or 'breathing' wells. In the course of collecting well records, the hydrologists of the survey have observed many wells that emit currents of air with more or less force, sometimes accompanied by a whistling sound which can be heard for a long distance. The best-known examples of this type of well are found throughout the state of Nebraska. Blowing wells are also known to occur in Rapides Parish in southern Louisiana. The force of the air current in one of the Louisiana wells is sufficient to keep a man's hat suspended above it. The cause of such phenomena is mainly due to changes in atmospheric pressure or to changes in temperature. During the progress of a low-barometer storm over these regions, the air is expelled from the blowing wells. With a rising barometer, the blowing becomes rapidly less until the current is finally reversed. Differences in the temperature of the surface air and the air in the soil also produce similar effects. When the interstices between the grains of sand, gravel, etc., in which the well is driven are filled with water, the phenomena of blowing is much less noticeable. The survey will welcome any in-

formation from well owners and drillers relating to these wells.

WE learn from the London *Times* that since May, 1904, correspondence has been proceeding between the Bengal government, the government of India and the Secretary of State upon the subject of the establishment of a school of mines in India, or, in lieu thereof, the making of provision for mining instruction at the Sibpur Engineering College, Calcutta, with practical instruction in the mining districts. The latter proposal was, on the advice of a representative committee of educational and mining experts, recommended by the Bengal government and has been sanctioned by the secretary of state. The course is to be for five years, including 18 months' training in the mining districts, where the students will work under the instruction of managers of mines. A professor of mining engineering is to be appointed from England at a salary of Rs.750 per mensem, rising annually by increments of Rs.50 to Rs. 1,000, which is equivalent to £800 per annum. A peripatetic mining instructor, with a native assistant, is also to be appointed, at the same salary, but without exchange compensation allowance. His work will be to give instruction to persons already engaged in mining work who desire to obtain certificates of competency. Such instruction is in all cases to be gratuitous, in view of the fact that 'owing to the extensive ignorance usually prevailing the mines are now for the most part worked upon unsystematic and wasteful lines, and that the absence of technical knowledge is a constant source of danger to the laborers.'

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

By the will of the late General Isaac J. Wistar, the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology of the University of Pennsylvania, founded by him, will receive the residue of his estate, thought to amount to about \$400,000.

At the opening of Smith College it was announced that Mr. Andrew Carnegie had promised the sum of \$125,000 to the college, providing that friends of the institution raise an equal amount. The money is to be used

for the erection and maintenance of a new biological laboratory.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has given \$30,000 to Wittenberg College, Springfield, O., for a science hall, provided an additional \$30,000 is raised for the upkeep of the building.

ACCORDING to the report of the city controller of New Haven the property of Yale University exempted from taxation is valued at more than \$9,000,000, an increase of nearly \$2,000,000 in the past three years. This does not include the Hill House property, recently acquired at the cost of some \$500,000.

ON the occasion of the opening of Columbia University on September 27, the cornerstone of the new College Hall was laid, and the newly erected dormitories were open to inspection.

THE library given by Mr. Andrew Carnegie to Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, was dedicated on September 13. Bishop Henry Spellmeyer, of Cincinnati and Hon. Johnson Brigham, of Des Moines, state librarian of Iowa, delivered the addresses. The building cost a little more than fifty thousand dollars. It is strictly fire proof and is built in the old colonial style of architecture. The capacity is 70,000 volumes.

ON September 1, 1905, by the unanimous action of their respective boards of trustees the Medical College of Indiana was made the Medical Department of Purdue University with the title of 'Indiana Medical College School of Medicine of Purdue University.'

COOPERATION between the University of Chicago and a number of railroad officers has resulted in the establishment of a four-year course in railway education.

DR. HENRY S. DRINKER will be inaugurated as president of Lehigh University on October 12.

APPOINTMENTS at Brown University have been made as follows: J. Ansel Brooks, assistant professor of mechanics and mechanical drawing; James F. Collins, assistant professor of botany; Henry B. Drowne, instructor in civil engineering; Charles W. Brown, instructor in geology and mineralogy.