

dent of the University of Illinois, questions the theory that the recent rapid growth in the material endowment of colleges is the work of the presidency, and also suggests that, even if it were, institutions are not always such centers of education, scholarship and research as their liberal endowments would lead one to suppose. It is only the great teacher and investigator, after all, who can impart anything but mere material greatness to an institution of learning.—*The Nation*.

A COLLEGE was originally a society of scholars organized for the pursuit and acquirement of knowledge. It sent forth its alumni to be ministers, jurists, physicians, teachers—leaders in their communities. It was for this purpose that colleges were founded in our country. They stood for the highest ideals of manhood. They and their graduates created and represented those ideals for which the college was responsible.

The president was then the head of the college. To the community he stood for what the college was and was doing for it. The people saw in him the disciplined mind and the all-around manhood which they honored and to which they taught their sons to aspire. To the faculty he was the leader in their plans, and the inspirer of their aims. Students went to the college already reverencing him as the embodiment of a high ideal, went to him when there as counsellor and friend, passed under his instruction in the upper classes and carried the impress of his character through their lives. Such men as Mark Hopkins, of Williams, and Theodore Woolsey, of Yale, and James Fairchild, of Oberlin, reproduced their noblest qualities directly and indirectly in thousands of leaders of men, and no men in any office in this country have surpassed them in its service.

The average college president of to-day represents no such ideal. He is not sought for it, has no opportunity to realize it. There are men of the type here described, but they are exceptions. The college president is chosen because of his ability as a money getter. His business is to beg from rich men and from women who have fortunes left to them. His success is measured by the number and cost

of the buildings erected with the money he has raised and by the amount of endowment he has secured. There are college presidents whose faces are more familiar to business men in Boston and New York than to their own students, who have earned no more right to a place in the ranks of scholars than the captains of their college football teams, and who are less honored and heroic than they are in the public's esteem.

None feels the degradation of the high office of the college president as keenly as he does. In many cases he has accepted his office with a worthier purpose than that which he has been forced to adopt. He has yielded most reluctantly to the compulsion to join the already overfull procession of those who were nominally chosen as intellectual and moral leaders of men, who crowd on one another in the anterooms of business offices and in ringing the doorbells of the rich.—*The Congregationalist*.

A NEW SCHOOL FOR CLAY WORKERS.

THE University of Illinois has issued a bulletin describing the courses in ceramics which it now offers for the first time. The rapid destruction of our forests and the consequent increase in value of all kinds of lumber are causing people to look with new interest toward clay products as the most promising building and decorative materials of the near future, and this interest has caused a demand for cheaper and better materials of this class.

Clay workers are beginning to realize that in order to meet this demand they must put men who are well educated along lines of applied science and mechanics in control of their plants and are inquiring where such men can be found. As there are but three schools in this country which offer instruction especially planned to meet the needs of clay workers, the demand far exceeds the supply and manufacturers are willing to pay well for the services of competent men, hence the University of Illinois feels justified in adding such instruction to the technical courses which it has offered heretofore.

Two courses are offered, both of which

recognize the fact that no good work can be done in ceramics which is not based on the three sciences, chemistry, physics and geology. With these sciences and technical instruction in clay working as its backbone, the course in ceramics also offers instruction in art, English and modern languages, mathematics, physical training and military tactics.

In the course in ceramic engineering, instruction in art and in certain technical subjects is replaced by elementary courses in electrical, mechanical and civil engineering. The course is intended principally for those who wish to install plants rather than operate them. Substitutions are also suggested which will adapt the course to the needs of the manufacturer of limes and cements.

Students in all except the strictly technical subjects work in the laboratories of the scientific and engineering departments. The special ceramic laboratories are equipped with kilns, furnaces, presses, mills, jiggers, whirlers, and such other machines, all of the latest and most approved types, as are necessary to enable the student to do thoroughly practical work.

The school counts among its friends the managers of nearly all the large clay-working establishments in Illinois, and there seems to be no reason why it shall not speedily become very helpful to the clay interests of the state and nation and at the same time open to young men a new and profitable field for effort.

PHYSIOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE AT THE NEW ORLEANS MEETING.

THE sessions of Section K of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which will be held on the morning and afternoon of January 1, promise to be of unusual interest. The morning session will be opened by an address by the vice-president, Dr. William T. Sedgwick, on 'The Experimental Method in Sanitary Science and Sanitary Practise.' The remainder of the morning session and all of the afternoon will be devoted to a symposium on yellow fever and other insect-borne diseases. Yellow fever in its various phases will be discussed by Drs. J.

H. White, Quitman Kohnke, James Carroll and H. A. Veazie. It is expected that Dr. Edmund Souchon, Surgeon-General Wyman and Col. W. C. Gorgas and other specialists, will also take part in the discussion. Dr. William S. Thayer will read a paper on 'The Problem of Prophylaxis Against Malaria in the United States,' Dr. Henry B. Ward will consider filariasis and trypanosome diseases, Dr. Charles W. Stiles will present a résumé of facts bearing on the principles involved in the transmission of diseases by insects, and Dr. Gary N. Calkins will discuss the protozoan life cycle. Dr. L. O. Howard will talk on mosquitoes that carry disease and Mr. Henry Clay Weeks, secretary of the American Mosquito Extermination Society, will present the practical side of mosquito extermination.

WILLIAM J. GIES,
Secretary.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. HENRY S. PRITCHETT has resigned the presidency of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to accept the presidency of the Carnegie Foundation for pensioning college and university professors, the offices of which will be in New York City.

A DEPARTMENT of botanical research to include the Desert Laboratory and other botanical projects, was established by the action of the trustees of the Carnegie Institution at a recent meeting. Dr. D. T. MacDougal has resigned as assistant director of the New York Botanical Garden to accept the post of director of the newly organized department.

MAJOR D. PRAIN, hitherto director of the Botanical Garden at Calcutta, has been appointed to the directorship of Kew Gardens, vacant by the retirement of Sir William Thiselton-Dyer.

MR. F. W. DYSON, F.R.S., chief assistant at Greenwich Observatory, has been appointed astronomer royal for Scotland, and professor of practical astronomy in Edinburgh University, in the room of the late Professor Copeland.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM STIRLING, M.D., Brackenbury professor of physiology and histology