

Sec. 4. That the Secretaries of the Departments aforesaid shall make and publish from time to time uniform rules and regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

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*THE REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE  
WALTER REED MONUMENT.<sup>1</sup>*

THE committee on the Walter Reed memorial fund desire to submit, as is required, their report, and, as their work is practically finished, would ask to be discharged.

The amount subscribed to the fund up to May 1, 1906, as reported to the committee by General Calvin DeWitt, secretary of the Walter Reed Memorial Association, is \$20,943.64. The amount paid in is \$19,730.64, leaving subscribed, but not yet paid, \$1,213.

It was the desire of the committee and also of the Walter Reed Memorial Association that the sum of \$25,000 should be raised. The committee regret very much indeed that American cities and towns which have been devastated by yellow fever have contributed much less than \$1,000 all told, and nothing in the way of public, municipal or state subscriptions. They still further, and especially regret that the sum total from Cuba has been only \$25. It seems to the committee that the country from which yellow fever was eradicated after having been continually present for 140 years, and which has had pointed out to it clearly the way in which future epidemics can be absolutely avoided, should certainly have made some substantial acknowledgment of the services of a surgeon who not only made a contribution of enormous value from the sanitary point of view, but who has established its future commercial prosperity.

The committee can not tell precisely the amount subscribed by the medical profession, but it is a very large proportion of the nearly \$20,000 collected to date. It gives us pleasure to call attention to the fact that while few business men have recognized the enormous money value of Dr. Reed's services, to say nothing of the saving of human lives, his own profession has given such substantial recognition of the worth of his services in preventing

<sup>1</sup> Presented at the Boston meeting of the American Medical Association.

a disease which has committed such dreadful havoc in the past, but will never do so again.

JOSEPH D. BRYANT,  
A. C. CABOT,  
T. S. CULLEN,  
VICTOR C. VAUGHAN,  
ROBERT F. WEIR,  
W. W. KEEN, *Chairman*.

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*THE SHALER MEMORIAL FUND.*

THE following circular has been sent by a committee of alumni of Harvard University to the graduates of the College and the Scientific School:

Nathaniel Southgate Shaler, S.D., LL.D., professor of geology and dean of the Lawrence Scientific School, died in Cambridge, April 10, 1906, after more than forty years of faithful work at Harvard.

Professor Shaler's remarkable personality made a profound impression on the college and the community. The names of over 6,000 students have been enrolled in his classes. In recognition of his great services to the university, the executive committee of the Alumni Association has appointed the committee named below to secure a Shaler memorial fund, the form of the memorial and the disposition of the principal and income of the fund to be determined by the committee.

It is believed that many Harvard men, to whom the members of the committee are unable to write personally, will wish to subscribe to this memorial. This circular is therefore sent to all graduates of the college and the scientific school. Those who desire to contribute to the fund are requested to send their subscriptions, large or small (in the form of checks made payable to the Treasurer of Harvard University), to the chairman as soon as possible, in order that a good report of progress, stating the number of subscriptions as well as the total amount subscribed, can be made on commencement day, June 27.

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*THE ITHACA MEETING.*

THE meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the affiliated societies at Cornell University next week is an event of importance in the history of scientific organization and the advancement and diffusion of science in this country. The

association held both a summer and a winter meeting in 1850, but thereafter until 1902 held a single meeting, usually in the month of August. The useful work of the association reached a culminating point some twenty-five years since. At the meetings held in Boston, Montreal and Philadelphia, in 1880, 1882 and 1884, the attendance was between 900 and 1,000. But thereafter there was a decline, until the attendance at Springfield, Buffalo and Detroit, in 1895, 1896 and 1897, was 368, 333 and 268. The Boston meeting of 1898, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary, was large, but on the whole the association was losing ground. This was mainly due to the increased specialization of science and the formation of societies for the different sciences.

The American Society of Naturalists was organized in 1883 to hold winter meetings limited to professional students of science. The special societies subsequently formed for different natural sciences held meetings in affiliation with the Naturalists, and these meetings were nearly as large and had probably more valuable scientific programs than the summer meetings of the association. An American Mathematical Society was also organized, holding its annual meetings at Christmas, and the societies formed later for physics and astronomy tended to affiliate with it. The special societies had a more compact organization than the American Association, due to their professional membership coming mainly from adjacent centers on the Atlantic seaboard. The more amateur and scattering membership of the association was thus emphasized. The association would have suffered severely if it had not been for the affiliation with the American Chemical Society.

If the association were to remain the central organization for the advancement and diffusion of science it was necessary for it to

enter into affiliation with the special societies, and if its annual meetings were to be the chief clearing-house for the scientific research and scientific organization of the country it was necessary to hold the principal meeting in winter. If the association had not done these two things one or more new combinations of societies would have arisen, and they would have worked more or less at cross purposes with the association. There have naturally been difficulties to overcome, but on the whole the convocation week meetings have justified themselves. There were nearly a thousand members of the association and probably fifteen hundred scientific men at the Washington and the Philadelphia meetings.

But the transfer of the meetings of the association from summer to winter left one annual meeting where there had previously been two, and this at a time when the membership of the association had more than doubled. The large winter meetings do not so much take the place of the summer meetings as fill an entirely different function. It may almost be said that they substitute business for pleasure.

It is fortunate that the association now finds itself strong enough to supply both. Nothing can be pleasanter than a summer meeting in a university town amid beautiful surroundings, and Ithaca and Cornell supply ideal conditions. In addition to the regular programs of scientific papers addresses of general interest are promised, and excursions certain to be both enjoyable and profitable have been arranged. The new physical laboratories of Cornell University will be formally opened and Sigma Xi will celebrate the twentieth anniversary of its foundation. No more favorable opportunity will occur to see a great university, to visit a region both beautiful and scientifically interesting, to listen to spe-

cial scientific papers and more general addresses, to meet friends and form acquaintances, than the meeting of the American Association and the affiliated societies which begins at Ithaca informally on Thursday evening of next week and formally on the following day.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE *Ordre pour le Mérite* has been conferred on Professor Robert Koch by the German Emperor.

THE Society of Arts has awarded its Albert medal to Sir Joseph W. Swan, F.R.S., 'for the important part he took in the invention of the incandescent electric lamp, and for his invention of the carbon process of photographic printing.'

PROFESSOR F. E. NIPHER has been elected a foreign member of the Physical Society of France.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has conferred its doctorate of science on Daniel Giraud Elliot, curator of zoology, Field Museum of Natural History, and on Baron Kanehiro Takaki, surgeon-general (reserve) of the Japanese navy.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY has conferred the degree of doctor of laws on Professor Lucien M. Underwood, professor of botany at Columbia University.

ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY has conferred its doctorate of science on Mr. Willis L. Moore, chief of the Weather Bureau.

At its recent commencement, Union College conferred the honorary degree of doctor of science on C. J. H. Woodbury, of the American Bell Telephone Company, Boston, Mass.; on E. W. Rice, Jr., of the General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y., and on Charles S. Prosser, professor of geology in the Ohio State University.

THE Western University of Pennsylvania, at its commencement on June 12, conferred the honorary degree of Sc.D. upon Mr. William T. Hornaday, the director of the New York Zoological Garden at Bronx Park. Owing to recent illness Mr. Hornaday was

not able to be present, and the degree was received for him by Dr. W. J. Holland, the director of the Carnegie Museum, who said: "Mr. Hornaday is to-day one of the very foremost men in his calling. He it was who first suggested the establishment of the National Zoological Park in Washington, and from the very beginning until the present hour he has watched over and guided the development of the Zoological Garden in New York until it is to-day the most perfect, the most beautiful and most generously supported institution of its kind upon the globe. His aim has been to popularize knowledge of the animal world. His latest work, 'The American Natural History,' is a splendid book. In honoring Mr. Hornaday the university is honoring herself."

THE Carnegie Institution of Washington, which has subsidized the horticultural work of Mr. Luther Burbank for a term of years, has recently taken additional measures to extend and facilitate the development of this project. Dr. George H. Shull, of the department of experimental evolution, has been sent to Santa Rosa to begin a study of Mr. Burbank's horticultural operations. It is proposed to prepare a volume descriptive of noteworthy products and to examine all available results of breeding experiments with respect to their bearing on questions of hybridization, selection, heredity and variation. The entire investigation is in charge of a committee consisting of President Woodward; Dr. C. B. Davenport, director of the department of experimental evolution; Dr. D. T. MacDougal, director of the department of botanical research, and Dr. A. G. Mayer, director of the department of marine biology. The committee has recently returned from a conference with Mr. Burbank, during the course of which an inspection was made of the breeding grounds and plantations at Santa Rosa and Sebastopol.

PROFESSOR R. S. TARR, of Cornell University, will conduct an expedition to Alaska during the coming summer, with four assistants and a number of packers. This expedition will study the Malaspina and Bering