was found in association with a large number of shark teeth.

In both instances the strata in which the *Desmostylus* remains occur are typical marine deposits, evidently of Miocene age. The fauna of these formations is in the main that of the open sea rather than of the shore, and it is difficult to conceive of proboscideans as occurring typically in these beds. The presumptive evidence, therefore, points pretty definitely toward an aquatic type as the one from which these remains have come.

Of the previously described American specimens we have known very little concerning the occurrence. The only one of which we have any definite information is in the collection of Professor Thomas Condon, of the University of Oregon, who informed me that it was 'picked up on the Yaquina beach, which is throughout marine.' Marsh states that the type specimen was found associated with the remains of a mastodon, a camel, a large edentate, and one or more species of horse, apparently indicating that the deposits were of alluvial or fresh-water origin. Unfortunately, there is no record to indicate exactly where or under what circumstances the material was obtained. The occurrence of the other three specimens from California is also very uncertain.

Influenced by the statement of Marsh, the writer inclined originally to the view that *Desmostylus* was obtained in fresh-water deposits. At the present moment, the only definite evidence fails to lend support to this view. In the case of the Japanese material the evidence is of much the same character as that now available here. It was associated with the teeth of the shark, *Carcharias japonicus,* and with the marine shell *Solen.* Impressions of some land plants were also found, and the authors expressed the view that the deposits, though marine, were of shallow-water origin. Possibly the range extends from marine beds through estuary deposits in both America and Japan.

Although the above notes do not give us very satisfactory information as to the habitat of *Desmostylus,* such evidence as is now before us indicates that this form is an aquatic animal and, therefore, probably a sirenian rather than a proboscidean. If *Desmostylus* were a typical proboscidean distributed from Japan to southern California, one would expect to find it ranging some distance inland on both continents. While its non-appearance inland might be due to our having overlooked it in collecting, its appearance in the marginal marine deposits on both sides of the Pacific suggests that its wide range was over the sea.

John C. Merriam.

QUOTATIONS.

The Faculties in American Universities.

In discussing a paper by Professor Andrew F. West, of Princeton University, presented at the seventh annual conference of the Association of American Universities, President Van Hise, of the University of Wisconsin, said:

I believe that unity in a university is more important than administrative efficiency, and just so sure as the president and deans and councils are made superior to the faculty the university will lose unity. Indeed, to control general university policies, I believe in a single university faculty which includes every member of the instructional force, so far as participation in debate is concerned, with every person of professorial rank as voting members. To that faculty the various administrative committees should be accountable, and while they may have full power in carrying out settled policies, important variations of policy should be reviewed by the faculty. This proposal of course does not interfere with the power of the faculties of the several colleges to control their own affairs. It seems to me it would be a profound mistake for the president to depend upon his own initiative. If he is not in close fellowship with his faculty, so that they freely come to him with their best suggestions, the institution will make educational progress very slowly indeed. It has been my privilege to receive suggestions freely from the Wisconsin faculty. For my own part, I would sooner see a measure in which I believe not passed, than to have it passed over the faculty. If I can not present the advantages of the measure so that it appeals to their reason, then, in all probability, I am wrong in my educational policy. It may be that in some cases the faculty may be wrong; educational progress might have gone a little faster, had the faculty been overruled; but the grand

average will be much better by the thorough co-operation and harmonious relations which come from mutual respect and mutual acceptance of one another's ideas.

Possibly a president ought to have appeal to a corporation over the faculty. An emergency might arise in which this power might be necessary; but a president will be very wise to use that power rarely. I never have used it, and it would be an extreme case in which I should do so. If a measure were adopted by the faculty of which I thoroughly disapproved, which I could not carry before the trustees with my recommendation, I should ask the faculty to appoint a committee to present that subject to the trustees, so that the faculty should have full representation of their view. I might be obliged to dissent from that view, and then the trustees must exercise their final responsibility.

In conclusion, I think it is important that all the members of the instructional force shall know why a thing is done. If there is a senate above the men, and that senate takes the initiative and passes acts which have been opposed by the faculty as a whole, there is dissension; if, on the other hand, everybody has been given opportunity to express his views fully, then every man feels: "I had my opportunity to express what I had to say; the faculty has voted so and so; that stands as the university action and I will support it." I may be in a somewhat extreme position in regard to this matter; I would have not only perfect liberty upon the part of all our members of a faculty, but I would have unity and concentration of power in a single faculty for general educational policies.

PROFESSOR HENRY A. WARD.

WITHIN a little more than a year two great students of meteorites have passed away. Professor E. Cohen, of Greifswald, who died on April 13, 1905, made studies of the structure and composition of the iron meteorites which marked an important advance in our knowledge of these bodies, and his writings on meteorites in general were monumental in character. Professor Henry A. Ward, who died on July 4, 1906, was the world's greatest collector of meteorites, and made also important contributions to the science of the subject. Both left projected plans incomplete. Professor Cohen's 'Meteoritenkunde' was purposed to be a work of six volumes, of which only three were completed at the time of his death. Professor Ward had practically completed a last great collection, but he had in preparation a large work in three volumes descriptive of the collection and covering the subject of meteorites in general, which was only partially finished. Aside from his work as a collector Professor Ward had made important contributions to our knowledge of meteorites which will always be of value. Perhaps his greatest service, and one which he rendered as no other could, was that of visiting remote corners of the earth to obtain exact and complete knowledge of meteorites whose existence had been hitherto only partially verified. His latest work of this kind was perhaps one of the most important. This was a trip to Santa Rosa, United States of Colombia, to gain exact knowledge regarding an iron meteorite concerning which little was known since the mention of it in 1824 by Boussingault. This trip he had long had in mind and had partially undertaken at other times, but he had not been successful in carrying out his purpose until the present year. He obtained about 300 pounds of this meteorite and full information regarding both it and the adjoining meteorite of Rasgata, which had been much confused with it in literature. It is to be hoped that his notes regarding this meteorite are sufficiently preserved so that a record will be saved to science. Other important meteorites which he 'rescued' in a similar manner were those of Bacubirito in Mexico and Veramin in Persia. The acquisition of the latter meteorite required a visit to the Shah himself, for which Professor Ward's native address and diplomacy served him in good stead. For tasks of this character Professor Ward was fitted as few others ever have been, for his wide knowledge of the world in a geographic sense enabled him to penetrate to the remotest regions and secure exact information. The meteorite catalogues which he has published from time to time have also been peculiarly useful in the accuracy of the locations given, since this accuracy came from a personal knowledge of localities on the part of Professor Ward. This is a service to science which was especially needed, since the