

chemistry. (4) The establishment of a nucleus of a fund for the foundation, at the Chemists' Club, in New York City of a reference and circulating library, covering the entire field of theoretical and applied chemistry, which is to be in charge of a salaried librarian and to contain duplicate sets, one of them to be used for circulation among American chemists.

It was estimated that \$5,000 would be amply sufficient to cover the expenses of the personal token and the Perkin medal, while the sum of at least \$50,000 would be necessary for placing the library on a permanent basis.

At the dinner the first Perkin medal and a silver tea service will be presented to Sir William Perkin, and there will be addresses on the development of the coal tar industry and after-dinner speeches.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Smithsonian Institution was represented by Mr. S. F. Emmons at the International Geological Congress held in Mexico City from the sixth to the fourteenth of the present month and by Dr. Walter Hough at the fifteenth International Congress of Americanists, held in Quebec from the tenth to the fifteenth. Dr. Hough also represented the U. S. National Museum.

PROFESSOR WILHELM HITTORF, professor of physics at Münster, will be presented with a marble bust on the occasion of his jubilee, which will shortly be celebrated. Professor Hittorf has himself given 25,000 Marks for the scientific work in the Münster Academy.

DR. MAX TOEPLER, professor of physics at the Dresden Technological Institute, celebrated on September 7 his seventieth birthday.

DR. A. R. CROOK, for the past twelve years professor of mineralogy and economic geology at Northwestern University, has been appointed curator of the Illinois State Museum of Natural History at Springfield. During the past summer Professor Crook has visited museums of natural history in this country and abroad with a view to studying their methods of administration and installation.

DR. MAYNARD M. METCALF, professor of biology in the Woman's College in Baltimore since 1893, and now professor-elect of zoology in Oberlin College, has received the appointment to the Smithsonian seat in the Naples Zoological Station for the months of March and April, 1907. Dr. Stewart Paton, formerly of Johns Hopkins University, whom Dr. Metcalf succeeds at Naples, by extension of a former appointment, will occupy the Smithsonian seat for five months from the first of October of the present year. It is announced that the Smithsonian has decided to renew its lease of a table at the station for an additional term of three years from January 1, 1907, and that applications, which are acted on in order of receipt, may now be submitted. In view of the number of students who desire to avail themselves of this opportunity for study at Naples, a Smithsonian appointment is not approved for a longer period than six months, though in exceptional cases an extension may be asked for and granted, if such action does not interfere with the occupancy of other applicants.

THE first meeting of the California Branch of the American Folk-Lore Society during 1906-07 was held September 11, at 8 P.M., in South Hall, University of California, Berkeley. Mr. Charles Keeler presided. On motion a nominating committee was appointed consisting of Professor Dresslar, Professor Fryer and Mrs. Dickson. The committee reported the following nominations for officers for 1906-07:

President—Charles Keeler.

First Vice-president—John Fryer.

Second Vice-president—W. F. Bade.

Treasurer—S. A. Barrett.

Secretary—A. L. Kroeber.

Councilors—Charles F. Lummis, W. C. Mitchell, Mrs. Thomas B. Bishop, John E. Matzke, C. Hart Merriam, E. J. Molera.

On motion the report of the committee was adopted, the nominees being thereby elected. Professor A. L. Kroeber thereupon gave an address on 'California Indian Myths and Songs,' illustrated by graphophone records.

We learn from *Nature* that the government of Cape Colony has placed a sum upon the

supplementary estimates toward the expenses incurred in carrying out investigations upon defects in ostrich feathers, under the direction of Professor J. E. Duerden, of Rhodes University College, Grahamstown.

THE New York *Evening Post* says: "Signor Giolitti, a son of the prime minister of Italy, accompanied by his wife, has arrived from Naples. He is a professor of mathematics, and has come to America to attend courses of lectures at some of the universities in this country."

MR. WELLMAN has arrived in Norway, on board the *Frithjof*, with his balloon, which will be sent to Paris for improvements to be made in the motor, which broke down constantly. The wireless apparatus which had been installed in Spitzbergen for communication with Hammerfest was also a failure, telegrams not having been received from Norway.

THE opening exercises of the 153d academic year of Columbia University were held on September 26. The annual academic address was delivered by W. H. Burr, professor of civil engineering, upon 'The Technical School and the University.' Professor Burr was followed by Dr. Hermann Schumacher, of the University of Bonn, first Kaiser Wilhelm professor of German history and institutions in Columbia University.

ON the evening of October 10 Professor C. J. Keyser, of Columbia University, will deliver a lecture on 'The Space Concept of Lucretius and Blaise Pascal' before the mathematical section of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

DR. LUDWIG BOLTZMANN, eminent for his work in theoretical physics, of which subject he was professor in the University of Vienna, has committed suicide. He was born in Vienna in 1844, and after qualifying as docent at the university was successively professor at Gratz, Munich and Leipzig.

THE death is announced of Khan Bahadur Yusuf Sharif a Mohammedan geographer and topographer, who carried out important surveys in India and in Persia.

NEW YORK state civil service examinations will be held on October 13 for assistant bacteriologist in the State Department of Health at a salary of \$1,500, and for assistant sanitary chemist in the same department at a salary of \$720. There will also be an examination for the position of archeologist in the science division of the Educational Department at a salary of \$900. This position requires an acquaintance with the Indian tribes of the state.

THE U. S. civil service commission announces an examination on October 17 for the position of engineer in the department of sewer and waterworks construction, Manila, at a salary of \$4,000, and for the position of assistant engineers at salaries of \$1,800.

AN arrangement has been made by Dr. Samuel G. Dixon, state commissioner of health in Pennsylvania and Dr. Allen J. Smith, professor of pathology in the University of Pennsylvania, by which the pathological laboratories of the Medical School shall be used by the state for bacteriological and other work. Dr. Herbert Fox has been put in charge of the work.

THE firm of Friedrich Krupp, Ltd., of Essen, plans the erection of a technico-physical laboratory at a cost of \$500,000.

THE American Breeders' Association will hold its regular winter meeting at Columbus, Ohio, on January 15-18, 1907. The visiting association will conduct its daily sessions at the university and board of trade buildings as the guest of the Ohio Board of Agriculture, the Ohio State University and the Ohio agricultural societies. The most successful and foremost workers and investigators in breeding and heredity in animals and plants are being secured for the program. A prominent feature will be the reports from the forty-three committees among whom the work of the society is distributed. The American Breeders' Association has an annual membership of over 950 as well as 42 life members. Volume II., the second annual report, is just off the press.

ACCORDING to Reuter's Agency, the Indian government has under consideration a scheme

for reclaiming the Rann of Cutch, a work which, if carried out, will be similar to that undertaken by the Dutch in the Zuider Zee. The Rann of Cutch is a waste, at some seasons water, at others land, and it is proposed to reclaim it by closing the inlets from the sea, which are narrow. The water, which is everywhere shallow, would then evaporate rapidly, leaving heavy saline deposits. These, it is thought, could be washed out and drained away by a great canal to be constructed from the Indus. The application of scientific agriculture to the reclaimed land and the construction of a railway linking Karachi and Bombay would complete the proposed scheme.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

FOREIGN journals state that the Grecian government recently received from St. Petersburg a legacy of about eight million roubles (over \$6,000,000), which was left in the beginning of the last century by a rich Grecian merchant, of the name of Dombolis, with the condition that after the lapse of a definite time a second Grecian university should be built in Corfu out of the capital and interest, and be called the Kapodistrias University.

WE learn from the *Journal of the American Medical Association* that the former professor of legal medicine and toxicology at Montpellier, France, Dr. Jaumes, who died recently, aged seventy-two, made the medical faculty his legatee. A fund producing an income of \$1,200 was left to found a chair of general pathology and therapeutics, and a prize in legal medicine was also endowed in both the medical and law departments. Another fund representing an income of \$2,000 reverts ultimately to the medical faculty, and \$6,000 was presented to the local medical and other scientific societies.

MR. ALBERT CRANE, of Stamford, Connecticut, has given \$100,000 to the Divinity School of Tufts College.

IMPROVEMENTS have been made during the summer at Cornell College which will greatly strengthen the scientific work. New and en-

larged quarters have been provided for the engineering department and the departments of geology, physics and biology. Quantitative and organic laboratories have been provided for the chemical department. A large amount of apparatus has been secured for the different subjects.

A NEW dormitory for men has been erected at the University of the Pacific to replace the one damaged by the recent earthquake. It will contain fifty-six sleeping rooms (all outside rooms) each supplied with hot and cold water, fixtures for electric and gas light, and steam heat. Each floor will have six bath rooms and four needle-shower rooms with tile wainscoted sides and floors. The Y. M. C. A., library and club rooms will be 25 x 25 feet each. The building is being constructed of wood, steel and cement, with metal tile roof, will be practically fire-proof, and practically earthquake proof. It will cost about thirty thousand dollars. The fourth story of East Hall has been removed, the roof lowered and the entire building bound securely by steel rods. North, South, East, West, Central and Music Halls have been replastered and decorated. A new athletic field is being laid out, and a large plunge bath will be put in back of the gymnasium. One of the heating plants, destroyed by the earthquake, is being replaced by a large plant of sufficient capacity to heat all the buildings in place of two plants as at present.

THE buildings of Groningen University were partly destroyed by fire on August 30. The natural history museum and the chemical laboratories were among the buildings destroyed.

It is reported that Zürich University will increase the lecture and laboratory fees chargeable to foreigners, with the idea of lessening their numbers.

DR. FRANCIS FRANCIS has been promoted to a chair of chemistry at University College, Bristol, vacant by the appointment of Dr. Travers to the directorship of the Indian Institute of Science, to be established at Bangalore.