at Oxshott, Surrey,' by W. H. Dines (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, Vol. 77, 1906, 440–458). This work was done under a grant from the British government and from the British Association.

R. DeC. Ward.

RESEARCH LABORATORY OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

The Research Laboratory of Physical Chemistry has opened with a staff consisting of seven research associates and four research assistants. The new members of the staff are Herbert T. Kalmus, M. I. T. '04, Ph.D. (Zurich), Ledyard W. Sargent, A.M. (Harvard), E. B. Spear, A.B., Manitoba, and Fred C. Mabee, A.M. (McMaster University). In addition, researches are being pursued in the laboratory by five candidates for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy and one candidate for that of Master of Science. All the members of last year's staff remain.

To one of the research workers, Mr. Richard C. Tolman, a grant of three hundred dollars has been made during the summer from the C. M. Warren Fund of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, to enable him to construct what will probably be the most powerful centrifugal machine ever made for experimental purposes, to be used in connection with an investigation of the electromotive force produced at the two ends of a rapidly rotating solution of any ionized substance. A grant of three hundred dollars from the Rumford Fund of the American Academy has also been made to Professor A. A. Noyes, which is to be used for the construction of a calorimeter adapted to direct thermochemical measurement with solutions up to 100°.

A gift has just been made to the laboratory of a large diamond valued at three hundred and fifty dollars by the Ansonia Brass and Copper Company. This is to be used in insulating the electrode within the bomb used in the conductivity investigations at high temperatures, and will entirely eliminate the error due to contamination which has been involved in the previous work where it was necessary to use quartz insulators.

A series of twelve articles on the electrical conductivity of aqueous solutions, describing the investigations on this subject made during the last three years in the laboratory, is in process of publication by the Carnegie Institution at Washington. A large part of a revised scheme of qualitative analysis for the common elements, which has been worked out during the past year by A. A. Noyes and W. C. Bray, has just appeared in the September number of the *Technology Quarterly*.

THE PERKIN LIBRARY.

Professor Chandler, who presided at the Perkin Jubilee banquet in New York, made the following statement with regard to the proposed Perkin library:

In order to honor the name of our distinguished guest for all time, it is proposed by the committee of 150 chemists and other prominent citizens who have organized this jubilee celebration, to establish in New York City a complete chemical library in duplicate; one set of books to constitute a permanent reference library always available for any one who wishes to consult it at the home of the Chemists Club, and one set equally complete for circulation throughout the country among the members of the chemical profession.

It can be truly stated that there is not a complete chemical library in the United States. Several of our larger universities have fair libraries, but each one of them lacks something that the searcher is sure to want. Moreover, these libraries are not accessible to many of the chemists. There are now about 8,000 professional chemists in the United States—teachers in our universities, colleges and high schools; professional consulting chemists and chemists in manufacturing establishments, water works, experiment stations, etc. Very few of them have access to even a respectable chemical library.

It is proposed that the circulating library shall be cared for by two or more thoroughly educated chemists to whom any chemist in the United States may apply for information on any chemical subject. The chemists in charge will keep reference lists of the best books and