

*SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE LAMARCK  
MEMORIAL*

AMERICAN naturalists are responding to the invitation of French naturalists to join in the work of erecting a monument in Paris to Lamarck. The American members of the international committee, consisting of Messrs. Agassiz, Osborn and Dean, have not as yet, however, received a sum substantial enough to indicate adequately the interest which Americans have always displayed in the works of Lamarck, or the part which America should play in the building of this monument to the founder of the evolution theory. Up to the present time there are forty-two subscribers, and the total amount raised is \$497.

At least \$1,000 should be sent to France to represent worthily the zoological interests of this country.

Among the subscribers are Messrs. Agassiz, Mayer, Montgomery, Sigerfoos, H. L. Bruner, Osborn, Osburn, Gage, Allis, Dean, Brewer, Mary Rathbun, Thaxter, Dachrowski, Nachtrieb, Grover, Beal, Parker, Birge, Bigelow, Clarence H. Mackay, Woodward, Kellogg, Schuchert, Lee, Armstrong, N. Y. Academy of Sciences, Martha Bunting, Holland, Rathbun, Walcott, C. F. Cox, Gill, Wagner, Whitman, New York Zoological Society, Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, Metcalf, Biological Society of Washington, Townsend, Hargitt.

Subscriptions and letters of inquiry should be addressed to Professor Bashford Dean, Columbia University, New York.

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*SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS*

WE record with deep regret the death of Lord Kelvin on December 17.

THE Royal Society of Edinburgh has elected as British honorary fellows, Sir A. B. W. Kennedy, F.R.S., Sir E. Ray Lankester, K.C.B., F.R.S., Dr. J. A. H. Murray and Professor C. S. Sherrington, F.R.S.; foreign honorary fellows have been elected as follows: Professor Emil Fischer, Berlin; Dr. G. W. Hill, New York; Professor F. W. G. Kohlrausch, Charlottenburg; Professor H. F. Osborn, New York; Professor I. P. Pavlov,

St. Petersburg; Professor G. Retzius, Stockholm; Professor A. Righi, Bologna and Professor L. J. Troost, Paris.

THE Geological Society of France has elected Dr. C. R. Eastman, paleontologist at Harvard University, in charge of fossil vertebrates, to foreign membership in the society.

M. WALLERANT has been elected a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences in the section of mineralogy.

A BRONZE cut of President Eliot has been placed in the Harvard union. It is the work of the French medalist, Leon Deschamps, and is the original from which were taken the bronze medals made in connection with the John Harvard celebration.

*Nature* states that the executive committee of the National Physical Laboratory has appointed Mr. G. W. Walker, official assistant to the professor of natural philosophy in the University of Glasgow, as superintendent of the Eskdalemuir Observatory. Mr. Guy Barr, of Christ's College, Cambridge, has been appointed to an assistantship in the metallurgical and chemical department of the National Physical Laboratory.

DR. ROBERT BELL, chief geologist of the Canadian Geological Survey, was the guest of honor at the banquet of the Canadian Camp, held recently at Hotel Astor, New York City.

DR. WILLIAM R. BROOKS, director of the Smith Observatory and professor of astronomy at Hobart College, Geneva, N. Y., recently delivered his illustrated lecture on "Comets and Meteors," at Trinity College, Hartford; and at Wellesley College, Mass.

AN expedition from the Desert Laboratory, including among its members Dr. D. T. MacDougal, Mr. Godfrey Sykes, Dr. W. T. Hornaday, of the New York Zoological Garden, and the Honorable J. M. Phillips, game commissioner of Pennsylvania, has recently traversed the region between Tucson and the Gulf of California. The geographical investigations centered at the Desert Laboratory were extended to include the Pinacate volcanoes, which lie near the Gulf of California in Sonora, and a general survey of plant dis-

tribution was made. A number of sunken craters, some of which were a mile in diameter and several hundred feet in depth, were discovered and measured, and material for the compilation of a map of the region was obtained. In addition to somewhat unexpectedly valuable data on the occurrence and distribution of desert plants and animals, splendid specimens of the big horn and antelope were secured, together with important information as to their habits and general behavior in this secluded region.

*Nature* says "Professor Bedson last June completed his twenty-fifth year as professor of chemistry at the Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The event was the occasion of many congratulations and suitable presentations. In addition to the celebration arranged last summer, we notice from the report of the principal of the college that the council has 'deemed it only fitting to mark the occasion, and its profound appreciation of Professor Bedson's exceptional services to the college, by unanimously voting him a "jubilee" vacation of six months, to take effect in the course of the coming year, together with a sum of £200.' We congratulate Professor Bedson, and commend the course of action adopted by the Newcastle authorities to the notice of other college councils."

WE regret to record the death of Sir James Hector, F.R.S., the British geologist, at the age of seventy-three years; of Admiral McClintock, the British Arctic explorer, at the age of eighty-eight years, and of Professor T. Barker, who formerly held the chair of mathematics at Owen's College, at the age of sixty-nine years.

THE Michigan Academy of Science will hold its fourteenth annual meeting at Ann Arbor, Michigan, on April 2, 3 and 4, 1908. The titles of all papers to be presented at this meeting should be sent to the vice-presidents of the different sections before March 1, 1908. The officers of the academy are: President, Mark S. W. Jefferson, Ypsilanti; Acting Secretary-Treasurer, Walter G. Sackett, Agricultural College; Librarian, G. P. Burns, Ann

Arbor. Vice-Presidents: Agriculture, A. C. Anderson, Agricultural College; Botany, W. E. Praeger, Kalamazoo; Geography and Geology, E. H. Kraus, Ann Arbor; Sanitary Science, J. G. Cumming, Ann Arbor; Science Teaching, S. D. Magers, Ypsilanti; Zoology, A. G. Ruthven, Ann Arbor.

THE Physical Society, London, held its third annual exhibition of electrical, optical, and other physical apparatus at the Royal College of Science, South Kensington, on Friday evening, December 13, from seven to ten o'clock.

THE Smithsonian Institution has published a fourth edition of meteorological tables. The publication of meteorological, physical and geographical tables is in furtherance of a policy adopted as early as 1852 by Secretary Henry, two years after the establishment of the Smithsonian weather service. In the preparation of the volume the institution was aided by Professors Alexander McAdie and Cleveland Abbe of the U. S. Weather Bureau.

BULLETIN No. 33, from the Bureau of American Ethnology, by Ales Hrdlicka, entitled "Skeletal Remains suggesting or attributed to Early Man in North America," reviews the Calaveras, Lansing, Nebraska and other crania which have been supposed by various writers to indicate the existence of crania of low type in North America. The author reaches the following conclusion: "The various finds of human remains in North America for which geological antiquity has been claimed have been thus briefly passed under review. It is seen that, irrespective of other considerations, in every instance where enough of the bones is preserved for comparison the somatological evidence bears witness against the geological antiquity of the remains and for their close affinity to or identity with those of the modern Indian. Under these circumstances but one conclusion is justified, which is that thus far on this continent no human bones of undisputed geological antiquity are known. This must not be regarded as equivalent to a declaration that there was no early man in this country; it means only that if

early man did exist in North America, convincing proof of the fact from the standpoint of physical anthropology still remains to be produced."

THE London *Times* states that the president of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Sir Alfred Jones, has received a short report from the Blackwater Fever Expedition of the Liverpool School, dated October 10, from Blantyre. The expedition, consisting of Dr. Wakelin Bannaii and Dr. Yorke, sailed from Marseilles in August last. They report that suitable laboratories have been placed at their disposal by the government of British Central Africa at Blantyre and at Zomba. Six days after the arrival of the expedition at Blantyre two cases of Blackwater fever occurred on the Shire Highlands Railway. The expedition visited the cases at once, and kept them under close observation until recovery occurred. The British government are defraying a portion of the cost of the Blackwater Fever Expedition.

A COURSE of popular lectures on natural history and travel, under the auspices of the Illinois State Museum of Natural History, will be given in the Arsenal Auditorium, Springfield, Ill., on Saturday evenings at eight o'clock as follows:

November 30—"Diamond Mining" (illustrated), by A. R. Crook, Ph.D., curator, Illinois State Museum of Natural History.

December 7—"Greater Steps in Human Progress," by W. J. McGee, LL.D., director of the St. Louis Public Museum.

December 14—"Zoological Collecting in British East Africa" (illustrated), by C. E. Akeley, Field Museum, Chicago.

January 4—"Mt. Pelé and the Destruction of St. Pierre" (illustrated), by E. O. Hovey, Ph.D., American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

January 11—"The Canadian Rockies" (illustrated), by C. S. Thompson, commercial agent, Illinois Central R. R., Milwaukee.

ACCORDING to the Paris correspondent of the *British Medical Journal* an interesting ceremony took place on November 19 in the Clinic Charcot. In the presence of M. Briand, the minister of public instruction, Dr. Jean Char-

cot handed over the library of his father to the administration of the Assistance Publique. The library, which was slowly collected by Professor Charcot, and contains works in all languages on diseases of the nervous system, is now permanently housed in the Salpêtrière Hospital, in the actual bookshelves and surrounded by all the consulting-room furniture and ornaments amidst which Charcot lived and worked. In addition to the minister and Dr. Jean Charcot there were present on the platform M. Mesureur, the director of the Assistance Publique; Professor Raymond, Charcot's successor in the clinical chair of diseases of the nervous system; Professors Bouchard, Marie, Brissaud, Déjerine, Segond, Madame Jean Charcot, Madame Jeanne Charcot, Madame Raymond, and many old pupils and friends of Charcot. Dr. Jean Charcot, in making the gift, said that it was not without a pang that he separated himself from these souvenirs, among which he had grown up, and which he had seen his father collecting and adding to, searching among the book-stalls on the quays, where he was well known, but he thought his father would have approved his action, seeing that he himself had sought other outlets for his energies. Professor Raymond thanked Dr. Jean Charcot for his gift, which, when it was originally offered to the faculty of medicine to be placed in the Salpêtrière, had been refused owing to lack of funds. The money, however, was offered by the Assistance Publique, and the library would always be open to workers from France and abroad. On Charcot's death his son refused a large German offer for the valuable library, and proposed that it should form part of the clinic which his father founded and made famous. M. Mesureur also thanked Dr. Jean Charcot for his act of filial piety. The Assistance Publique was glad to be associated with the state in the matter of teaching, for with its numerous hospitals and organizations for the relief of the poor, it really formed a large school of medicine. M. Mesureur expressed hope that the state would give further help to different clinics which were in want of funds, and thus increase the renown of

medical teaching in France. The minister added a few words of thanks to Dr. Jean Charcot for his abnegation in the higher interests of science and of the university, and hoped that his example would be followed in others. After the distribution of medals to some of the nurses and the gardener of the Salpêtrière, the library was visited by all present.

A COMMITTEE appointed to advise the senate of London University on the course to be pursued in regard to the proposed Institute of Medical Sciences has reported as follows: (a) That, owing to the lack of adequate financial support, the scheme for the establishment of an Institute of Medical Sciences, as set forth in the original appeal, and (in a modified form) in the appeal of June, 1905, has proved abortive; (b) that, apart from the money difficulty, which, in the opinion of the committee, is of itself fatal, the scheme has also become impracticable for other reasons. The medical faculty, which formerly reported in favor of the scheme, has now reported against it. Several of the medical schools have changed their opinions in the same sense, and some of them have made arrangements involving considerable outlay for providing more efficient instruction in preliminary and intermediate medical studies; (c) that, in the above circumstances, the university has no claim to the money which has been already paid by subscribers, or to the fulfilment of promises by subscribers who have not yet paid their subscriptions; and (d) that, in the absence of any special directions in any particular case all subscriptions already paid ought at once to be returned to the donors (including in that term the executors or legal representatives of deceased donors) without any suggestion as to any possible application of the money to any other purpose.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE main building of Monmouth College, including the science laboratories, was destroyed by fire on Thursday morning, November 14. All the science work has suffered much. The loss to the biology department

was the greatest, as the laboratory was on the third floor under the roof, where the fire started. The collections and apparatus of that department, which were of much value—and the laboratory—were almost completely destroyed. Plans are being made for rebuilding and carrying on the work meanwhile.

RICE HALL, housing the biological and chemical departments of Washburn college, Topeka, Kansas, was partially destroyed by fire on December 6. The loss, estimated at \$30,000, is covered by insurance; the building will be restored in the spring.

PENNSYLVANIA Day at the State College was celebrated on November 22, when the new agricultural building was dedicated. Addresses were made by Governor Edwin S. Stuart, Senator Bois Penrose, Mr. James A. Beaver, president of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer, superintendent of public instruction, Director Thomas F. Hunt, of the School of Agriculture, and Director Whitman Jordan, director of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.

ACCORDING to the New York *Evening Post* foreign countries are represented at Harvard University as follows: Canada, 42; China, 24; Japan, 8; England, 5; Mexico, 4; Republic of Argentina, 4; Germany, 3; Italy, 3; Australia, 2; Costa Rica, 2; France, 2; Ireland, 2; New Zealand, 2; Russia, 2; Bulgaria, 2; India, 2; Asia Minor, 1; British West Indies, 1; Korea, 1; Peru, 1; Siam, 1; Colombia, 1; Sweden, 1; Turkey, 1; Syria, 1; Rumania, 1; South Africa, 1.

PRESIDENT NORMAN PLASS, of Washburn College, Topeka, Kans., has resigned to go into business, his resignation to take effect at the close of the academic year.

DR. LOUIS COHEN has been appointed assistant professor of mathematics and Dr. Perley G. Nutting, assistant professor of physics at the George Washington University.

MR. E. T. CAMPAGNAC has been elected professor of education at Liverpool University to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Professor Woodward.