

tories to carry on the important investigations of the various bureaus and fireproof space for the library was recognized as paramount. The greater part of the indoor work of the department is conducted in laboratories, hence the absolute necessity for structures that would be well lighted, well ventilated, fireproof, and otherwise well adapted for the purpose. To accomplish these several objects and at the same time to secure opportunities for continued enlargement, the building has been arranged so that extensions could be made in segments as the work required. When the act authorizing the building was passed we could not foresee the rapid growth, by congressional action, of the department. On February 3, 1903, when the work was authorized, there were in Washington 1,100 persons employed in the Department of Agriculture. At the present time there are over 2,100—almost double the number on the date when the appropriation was made. While the original appropriation was so expended as to secure the greatest possible amount of floor space, this floor space is now totally inadequate to care for the increase of almost 100 per cent. in the number of employees. Full arrangements have been worked out for the occupancy of the present segments and the relinquishment of the several buildings for which rent is now being paid. The work will be completed within the appropriation made by Congress."

PROFESSOR J. A. ALLEN makes the following note in a recent *Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History* on the revision of the nomenclature code by the International Zoological Congress: "As time goes on, the importance of strict adherence to authoritative rules of nomenclature becomes more and more apparent. Hence the world-wide welcome accorded the work of the Nomenclature Commission of the International Zoological Congress, and the increasing cordiality with which its Code of Nomenclature is received. The time is doubtless now ripe for the acceptance on the part of zoologists at large of an International Arbitration Commission on Nomenclature which shall not only provide a code of official rules, but be willing to act as arbiter in difficult and com-

plicated cases where experts may reach different conclusions. To most systematists questions of nomenclature are distasteful, and they would gladly accept the decisions of a properly authorized International Commission rather than fritter away valuable time in attempting to solve nomenclatural riddles. Success in this thankless line of work requires natural aptness for such investigations, coupled with long experience and interest in such work. Nine tenths, if not ninety-nine one hundredths, of those who have occasion to use the technical names of animals, have not the time, the inclination, nor the proper training to deal successfully with such problems. Yet their correct solution is of importance to all. The adoption of uniform rules of nomenclature is essential to stability in nomenclature, but if they contravene well-established principles that have become the basis of modern usage they are not likely to meet with general acceptance. Happily the fundamental rules of nomenclature are few, and for many years have been embodied in all modern codes of nomenclature. Matters of detail are of less importance than unanimity of agreement, which may be easily reached by compromise and the waiving here and there of personal preference on minor points."

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

FROM a source not yet announced, the Harvard Dental School has received promise of the funds necessary for the erection of a new building. The site which has been chosen is the lot at the corner of Longwood Avenue and Wigglesworth Street, Brookline, adjoining the property on which the buildings of the Medical School stand.

A NEW agricultural building is to be erected for the University of Maine, at a cost of about \$35,000.

PRESIDENT EDMUND J. JAMES, of the University of Illinois, has issued a call for a national conference to meet at Urbana, Ill., on February 4 and 5, to discuss the relations of graduate schools of American universities to the preparation of teachers for high schools, colleges and universities.

THE National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education will hold a meeting in Chicago on January 23, 24 and 25. A full program has been arranged. Among the subjects that will be discussed are the apprenticeship system, the trade school, the wage-earners benefit from industrial education, and the ideal of a public school system that aims to benefit all. Among the speakers are Dr. Pritchett, of the Carnegie Foundation, president of the society; President Eliot, of Harvard University, and President Wheeler, of the University of California.

THE fourth annual report of the education department of New York State has been transmitted to the legislature. The amount expended for the common schools for the year was \$47,077,720, an increase of \$1,694,168. There were employed in the public elementary schools during the year 37,280 teachers—3,292 men and 33,988 women. The average annual salary paid was \$756.10, an increase of \$10.61.

THE New York Evening *Post* states that plans for beautifying the surroundings of the Harvard Medical School have been accepted by the Medical School and the Street Department of Boston. Starting from a terminal point in the Fenway near a small lagoon, the new avenue in honor of Louis Pasteur will lead up to the middle of the Medical School quadrangle. This avenue will run through the center of a parkway 120 feet wide. An entrance will be constructed at the junction of the parkway with the quadrangle of the school. The new laboratory on Longwood Avenue, near the Medical School—being built by the Carnegie Institution of Washington for the study of nutrition—will be completed on February 1.

THE Baltimore Association for the Promotion of the University Education of Women offers a fellowship of \$500 for the year 1908-1909 available for study at an American or European university. Applications must be in the hands of the chairman of the committee, Dr. Mary Sherwood, The Arundel, Baltimore, before March 20.

MR. E. M. GRIFFITH, the state forester of Wisconsin, will give a course of sixteen lec-

tures on forestry to the students of the University of Wisconsin during the second semester. The lectures are intended for those who expect to manage timber lands or take up forestry as their profession; for students in the agricultural college, to afford information in regard to the management of wood lots; and for students in the college of engineering who are interested in soil reclamation and the protection of stream flow and water powers. The subjects included in the course are the effects of deforestation, conservative lumbering, artificial and natural reforestation, the reservoir system on the headwaters of the Wisconsin, the forest fire problem, taxation of timber lands, forestry for farmers, and forestry legislation.

AT a recent meeting of the board of trustees of the Iowa State College Mr. C. A. Scott, of the United States Forest Service, was elected to the chair of forestry, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Professor H. P. Baker, who accepted a position at the Pennsylvania State College. Mr. Scott is a graduate of the Kansas State Agricultural College and a student of the Yale College of Forestry. Mr. Scott has been continuously in the employment of the Forest Service since graduation and during this period of seven years has gradually advanced through all stages of the work from that of student assistant to forest supervisor, which position he resigned to accept the chair of forestry at the Iowa State College.

THE corporation of Harvard University has appointed Herbert Leslie Burrell, now professor of clinical surgery, John Homans professor of surgery.

DR. GEORGE T. JACKSON has been appointed professor of dermatology in Columbia University to succeed Dr. George H. Fox, who has resigned.

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*Correction:* In the report of the general secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science there is an error on page 43. Sections A and D joined with the Chicago section of the American Mathematical Society in the discussion of the teaching of mathematics to engineers, not A and B, as appears in the report.