

of lectures on "The Last Five Centuries of Western Paganism."

INSTALLATION OF DR. W. F. M. GOSS AS DEAN OF  
THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

The formal exercises incident to the installation of Dr. W. F. M. Goss as dean of the College of Engineering of the University of Illinois occurred February 5, in connection with the formal opening of the graduate school of the university. The exercises of installation included two sessions and a tour of inspection through the laboratories of the College of Engineering.

The program for the morning session began with a brief address by the president of the university, Dr. Edmund J. James, introducing the chairman of the session, Professor James M. White. Professor Ira O. Baker, who for more than thirty years has been identified with the College of Engineering, described some significant events in the development of the college, giving special emphasis to the work of Stillman W. Robinson, the first professor in the College of Engineering of the University of Illinois, who continued in its service for a period of seven years. Mr. William L. Abbott, president of the board of trustees and a graduate of the College of Engineering, discussed briefly the standing of the technical graduate in the engineering profession. Following this, a formal installation address entitled "The State College of Engineering" was delivered by Dean W. F. M. Goss. This session was made memorable by the presentation of a token of their esteem by his associates in the College of Engineering to Dr. N. Clifford Ricker, a member of the class of 1872, the first professor of architecture, for thirty-five years a member of the instructional staff of the University of Illinois, and for the most of this period dean of the College of Engineering. Letters were read expressing interest in the occasion from Dr. Andrew S. Draper, president of the University of Illinois from 1894 to 1904; from Professor Stillman W. Robinson, the first professor of mechanical engineering, now a resident of Columbus, Ohio, and from Professor J. Burkitt Webb, the first professor of civil engi-

neering, later of Stevens Institute of Technology.

The afternoon session included an address by Mr. Robert W. Hunt, of Chicago, on "The Value of Engineering Research," and an address by Mr. Willard A. Smith, of Chicago, on "The Need of Graduate Courses in Engineering."

During the trip of inspection, which occurred between sessions, the visitors were conducted through the several laboratories. Especial interest was shown in the electric test-car which is a normal interurban car equipped with apparatus for observing and for recording the characteristics of the current absorbed in its operation. This car is operated by the university upon the tracks of the Illinois Traction System. Interest was also shown in the dynamometer car which is the joint property of the Illinois Central Railroad and the university, and which has recently been newly equipped with apparatus for more accurately determining the pull exerted by locomotives and the resistance of trains. The steam engineering laboratory, containing the experimental boiler used by Professor Breckenridge in his elaborate experiments involving the combustion of Illinois fuel, was visited and served as a center of interest for many of the out-of-town guests. The materials testing laboratory, under the direction of Professor Talbot, proved to be of especial interest. The 600,000-pound testing machine, which is installed there, and the work in reinforced concrete, which was seen in progress, proved convincing evidence of the activity of the laboratory in this important field of research.

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SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At a recent meeting of the general council of Glasgow University it was resolved to ask Lord Lister to allow his name to be proposed for the chancellorship, vacant through the death of Lord Kelvin. Lord Lister has replied as follows: "I can not imagine any honor that would have gratified me more had my health permitted to accept it, but I am so enfeebled by illness that there is no prospect of my ever being able to visit Glasgow, and

in my hands the high office of chancellor would be an absolute sinecure."

S. H. GAGE, professor of histology and embryology at Cornell University, will retire at the close of the present academic year from teaching to devote himself to research, under the provision of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which provides for an allowance after twenty-five years of service. Dr. James Law, director of the New York Veterinary College, having reached the age of seventy years, will retire with an allowance from the foundation. He will be succeeded by Dr. V. A. Moore, professor of comparative pathology. Professor Gage will be succeeded by Dr. B. F. Kingsbury, now assistant professor of physiology.

MR. CHARLES F. CHOATE, JR., a Massachusetts lawyer, who graduated from Harvard College in 1888, has been made a regent of the Smithsonian Institution to succeed the Hon. Richard Olney.

DR. PHILIP LENARD, professor of physics at Heidelberg, has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Institution of Great Britain.

THE following have been elected honorary and foreign members of the Chemical Society: A. E. J. Gautier, Paris; A. Haller, Paris; J. W. Hittorf, Münster; J. A. Le Bel, Paris; H. L. Le Chatelier, Paris; T. W. Richards, Harvard University; and O. Wallach, Göttingen.

THE Hon. James Bryce, British Ambassador at Washington, has accepted the appointment to be the next Dodge lecturer on the "Responsibilities of Citizenship," at Yale University. The lectures will be delivered next fall.

DR. C. B. ROBINSON, for the past sixteen months assistant curator in the New York Botanical Garden, has sailed for the Philippine Islands, where he has been appointed economic botanist in the Bureau of Science.

MR. ROBERT RIDGWAY has recently left Washington for a six months' ornithological expedition to Costa Rica, in the interests of the U. S. National Museum.

MR. J. C. SIMPSON, advanced student, of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, has been appointed to occupy the university table at the laboratory of the Marine Biological Association at Plymouth.

MR. W. W. EGGLESTON has been assigned a research scholarship for two months in the New York Botanical Garden to aid him in continuing his work upon North American Thorns.

DR. HALL-EDWARDS, of Birmingham, has had his left hand amputated, owing to his having contracted the disease known as "X-ray dermatitis." Dr. Hall-Edwards was the pioneer operator with the Röntgen rays in Great Britain. He was senior radiographer with the Imperial Yeomanry in the South African war, and he is surgeon radiographer to the General Hospital. His right hand is affected, but it is hoped that this will be saved. In spite of his great suffering and the heavy sacrifice, Dr. Hall-Edwards declares his intention of resuming his special work as soon as he is able to do so.

THE Special Board for Biology and Geology at Cambridge University reports that the Gordon Wigan income for biology and geology has been applied during 1907 as follows: (a) a grant of £50 a year to Dr. D. Sharp for a period of three years, or such part of it during which he holds the curatorship in zoology; (b) a grant of £50 for one year to Professor Seward to enable the Botanic Gardens Syndicate to offer greater facilities for plant-breeding experiments; (c) a grant of £50 to Professor Hughes to enable Mr. E. A. N. Arber, of Trinity College, to continue his researches into the stratigraphical and geographical distribution of fossil plants.

THE Smith's prizes at Cambridge University have been adjudged as follows: W. J. Harrison, B.A., Clare College, for his essay, "Problems in the Wave-motion of Viscous Liquids"; J. E. Littlewood, B.A., Trinity College, for his essay, "On the Asymptotic Behavior of Integral Functions of Zero Order, and Allied Problems"; J. Mercer, B.A., Trinity College, for his essay, "On the Solution of Ordinary Linear Differential Equations having Doubly Periodic Coefficients." The

above names are arranged in alphabetical order. The adjudicators are of opinion that the following essays are deserving of honorable mention, namely, "On Energy Accelerations and Partition of Energy," by C. W. Follett, B.A., Trinity Hall; "On Some Problems in the Theory of Metallic Reflection," by H. R. Hassé, B.A., St. John's College; "The Geometry of Apolar Triads," by W. P. Milne, B.A., Clare College; "Perpetuant Syzygies of the  $n$ th Kind," by H. T. H. Piaggio, B.A., St. John's College; "The Reflection of Plane Waves of Light at the Surface of a Medium of Special Periodic Character," by C. J. T. Sewell, B.A., Trinity College.

THE eighth lecture in the Harvey Society course will be delivered by Professor Ross G. Harrison, of Yale University, at the New York Academy of Medicine building, on Saturday evening, March 7, at 8:30 P.M. Subject: "Embryonic Transplantation and the Development of the Nervous System."

At the February meeting of the Philadelphia Section of the American Chemical Society, Professor Leonard P. Kinnicutt, of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, gave a résumé of the work of the past ten years in sewage treatment, illustrated by slides. He has been asked to give a similar lecture before the Syracuse section of the society at their March meeting.

ON January 30 Professor Koch delivered a lecture, illustrated with lantern slides, on sleeping sickness and the means of combating the disease, in the presence of the German Emperor and Empress.

SIR DYCE DUCKWORTH, lecturer at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and president of the British Section of the Medical Entente, delivered a lecture on February 18 in French at the Faculty of Medicine in Paris, under the presidency of the dean, M. Landouzy, on diathesis—that is to say, the natural predisposition to certain maladies. It is intended that this lecture shall be followed by others, both in London and Paris.

MR. A. WATT, meteorological secretary of the Scottish Meteorological Society, delivered a lecture on the climate of the British Isles

to the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, in Edinburgh, on February 19.

PROFESSOR G. HELLMANN, director of the Royal Prussian Meteorological Institute, will deliver a lecture on "The Dawn of Meteorology," at the meeting of the Royal Meteorological Society, on March 11, in the rooms of the Institution of Civil Engineers, London.

A COMMITTEE has been appointed from the senior class of Harvard University to procure a portrait of the late Professor N. S. Shaler to be hung in the living room of the Union.

THE sum of £1,000 has been collected among the patients and friends of the late Dr. W. S. Playfair, and is to be presented to King's College Hospital with a view to erecting a memorial to him at the institution with which he was associated for thirty-five years.

DONATIONS of £1,000 each, in memory of the late Mr. Walter K. Foster, have been promised towards the building fund of the new museum of archeology and of ethnology at Cambridge University by Mrs. Walter K. Foster, Mr. E. Bird Foster, Mr. C. F. Foster and Mrs. E. Rawlings. Mr. Foster, in whose memory this gift has been made, bequeathed to the university in 1891 a valuable collection of prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon antiquities.

OTHNIEL FOSTER NICHOLS, a prominent civil engineer, known for his work on foundations, bridges, tunnels and steel construction, died on February 3, aged sixty-three years, at his home in Brooklyn.

THE death is announced of Mr. George E. Davenport, of Medford, Massachusetts, a student of North American ferns, at the age of seventy-four years.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR RICHARD STRACHEY, F.R.S., died on February 12, at ninety-one years of age.

THE death is announced of Dr. Johannes Friedrich August von Esmarch, professor of surgery at the University of Kiel and surgeon-general during the Franco-German war, in his eighty-sixth year.

THE deaths are announced of Dr. A. Rümpler, professor of agricultural chemistry in Breslau, and Dr. Rinaldo Ferrini, professor of technological physics at Milan.

MR. WILLIAM KENT, of Chicago, Ill., and Kentfield, Cal., has presented a tract of 295 acres of magnificent sequoias in Redwood Canyon, near San Francisco, to the government.

MRS. BELL PETTIGREW, the widow of the late professor of medicine and anatomy at St. Andrews, has given £6,000 for the new museum of natural history of the university.

THE large and specially organized herbarium of the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, has received through the University of Chicago the complete herbarium of that institution; a herbarium inaugurated and augmented by Professor J. M. Coulter during the past twenty-five or more years of his active botanical researches. With the placing of this herbarium in intimate association with the museum herbarium the university transfers its taxonomic researches to the laboratories of the more fully equipped institution, where the students may receive the associate benefit of conducting their investigations under the supervision of the botanical staff of the museum and of the university. The herbarium thus transferred contains about 50,000 sheets, among which are a large number of types, copies and specially studied species.

At a meeting of scientific men held in the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, on January 13, it was resolved to form an association to be called "The Transvaal Biological Society" with the object of promoting the discussion of scientific problems by biological investigation, to arrange for regular meetings for this purpose, and to publish the proceedings of the meetings. To this society all persons are eligible for membership who are actually engaged in biological investigations, and have published at least one scientific paper, or are working on such. At least six meetings are to be held each year, special meetings to be called by the committee if necessary. Every member is expected to furnish at least one paper each year. The committee for the current year consists of Dr. Theiler, C.M.G., president; Mr. Burt-Davy, vice-president, and Dr. L. H. Gough, secretary and treasurer.

THE German Surgical Society will hold its thirty-seventh annual congress at Berlin from

April 21 to 24, under the presidency of Professor Freiherr von Eiselsberg, of Vienna. An exhibition of instruments and apparatus will be held in connection with the congress.

It is announced that an International Positivist Congress will be held at Naples on April 27. The program will consist of two parts, one devoted to the elucidation of positivist principles, the other to their applications to the problems of psychology, ethics, pedagogy, comparative theology, etc. Among those who have promised to read papers are Professor Haeckel, Professor Lombroso, M. Yves Guyot, Professor Villari and Lord Avebury.

A DINNER of the Physical Society was held, on February 1, at the Hotel Cecil, London. The chair was taken by the president, Professor J. Perry, F.R.S., and a number of guests and fellows of the society were present, including Sir David Gill, Sir William Ramsay, Sir William White, Sir J. Denison-Pender, Rear Admiral Sir H. B. Jackson, Sir Arthur W. Rücker, Sir Joseph Swan, Colonel R. E. Crompton, C.B., Professor W. G. Adams, F.R.S., Mr. Shelford Bidwell, F.R.S., Dr. C. Chree, F.R.S., Mr. W. Duddell, F.R.S., Professor Carey Foster, F.R.S., Dr. R. T. Glazebrook, F.R.S., Professor Reinold, F.R.S., Mr. J. Swinburne, F.R.S., Professor S. P. Thompson, F.R.S., and Dr. W. Watson, F.R.S.

A NEW medical society has been formed under the title of Société de Pathologie Exotique, its object being the study of tropical diseases in man and animals, colonial hygiene, naval hygiene, and sanitary measures destined to prevent the extension of epidemics and diseases of animals of exotic origin. The society will meet at the Pasteur Institute. The following officers have been elected: *President*, M. Laveran; *vice-presidents*, MM. Chantemesse and Kermorgant; *General Secretaries*, MM. Marchoux and Mesnil.

At the sitting of the Paris Academy of Sciences on February 17 particulars were given, according to the correspondent of the London *Times*, of investigations by M. Roubaud into the conditions of reproduction of the Tsetse fly, which is the most active instrument in the spread of the sleeping sickness. According to M. Roubaud, this insect seeks

the vicinity of water courses and the shelter of moist plants, and its larvæ perish rapidly if exposed for a few hours to the rays of a tropical sun, even when covered by a thin layer of dry earth. This shows that the Tsetse may be destroyed by cutting down the coverts in which it lays its eggs.

ACCORDING to a law passed by the Danish Rigsdag, the use of the metric system is made compulsory for all government purposes not later than May 4, 1910, the date of adoption prior to the limiting date to be fixed by the king; and two years after this adoption the system is made compulsory throughout the kingdom.

It is reported that three heavier than air-flying machines, capable of carrying two persons, remaining an hour in the air and traveling at least thirty-six miles an hour, have been contracted for by the United States government. They are to be built by Mr. A. M. Herring, of New York; the Wright Brothers, of Dayton, O., and J. F. Scott, of Chicago.

PROFESSOR A. W. GRABAU, chairman, and Dr. Charles P. Berkey, secretary of the Section of Geology and Geography of the New York Academy of Sciences, have sent out the following notice: "Almost every one appreciates the advantages of general meetings for those interested in similar lines of work or investigation. For geology and mineralogy, the Geological Society of America and Section E of the American Association for the Advancement of Science are accomplishing much in this direction. For various reasons, however, it frequently happens that large sections of the country are poorly represented at the yearly meetings, and the men of those sections are deprived of such advantages for a considerable time. It is also true that, in the larger meetings, the programs are crowded, and therefore opportunities for extended discussions are wanting, and the consideration of local or sectional matters are overshadowed or even forced out entirely by matters of general interest. It would seem that somewhat informal district or sectional meetings might be inaugurated that would meet these conditions. Field trips, such as are arranged occasionally by the geologists of New England, are a partial equi-

valent, but there is still too little attempted. It is the belief of the members of the Section of Geology and Mineralogy of the New York Academy of Sciences that it would be advisable each year to hold at least two meetings of the geologists and mineralogists of the northeastern section of the United States for the presentation of papers and the cultivation of a closer personal acquaintance. It is not proposed to encourage the formation of any new organization. It seems preferable to enlist the cooperation of the geological departments of colleges and sections of geology and mineralogy in academies of science, surveys and museums, and to depend upon such local units for chief support and guidance. Furthermore, it seems particularly desirable that meetings should be held successively at the different centers of greater activity, so far as they may be also points of easy access; such, for example, as New York, Boston, New Haven, Philadelphia. In accord with these suggestions, believing that they will meet with general approval, the Section of Geology and Mineralogy of the New York Academy of Sciences will arrange for such joint meeting to occupy one or more days early in April. We cordially invite you to attend, and we urge you to forward to the secretary of our section the titles of papers that you wish to present. A program will be printed as soon as these titles can be secured, and this, together with other items of information, will be mailed in advance of the meeting. The date will be the sixth of April."

AN engineer has been despatched to Africa to arrange for the construction of a large dam in the southern part of the German protected territory in Southwest Africa. By this means a reservoir would be created capable of holding about 44,000 million gallons of water. This supply, located about twenty-five miles from Keetmanshoop, would be utilized for the irrigation of the fertile plains below, which are at present incapable of cultivation owing to want of water. Mr. Schmick, the engineer selected for this purpose by Mr. Secretary Dernburg, will likewise visit East Africa, and will survey the courses of several of the rivers in order to ascertain whether they are capable

of being employed in a similar way for irrigation purposes.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

WE noted last week that by the will of the late Mrs. Frederick Sheldon, Harvard University received \$300,000 for the enlargement of the library building or such other purpose as may be preferred, and the residue of the estate for establishing traveling scholarships. The Harvard *Bulletin* states that the residue of the estate will probably exceed half a million dollars, and the total bequest will thus probably amount to more than \$800,000. Mrs. Sheldon was the widow of the late Edward Sheldon, of the class of '42.

By the will of the late Mrs. Rylands, the Victoria University, Manchester, will receive the sum of £50,000; Owens College, Manchester, £25,000, and Mansfield College, Oxford, £10,000.

PROFESSOR WILHELM ERB has given the University of Heidelberg a donation of \$20,000, one half to be applied for the benefit of students and assistants and their maintenance in hospital when required, the other towards the promotion of scientific research by students.

THE council of the senate of Cambridge University have had under their consideration, as we learn from the London *Times*, the desirability of giving the university the power of conferring upon professors who resign their office after having done good service to the university some honor which shall be a public recognition of that service. The title of professor emeritus has been employed for this purpose in various universities; but the existing statutes of this university contain no express provision giving power to confer it. The council think that it would be desirable to obtain that power, to be exercised in cases in which the university may desire to confer the honor. They accordingly recommend that the necessary steps be taken for altering the statutes by the insertion of a paragraph giving the university power, upon the retirement of a professor, either at the date of his retirement or subsequently, to appoint him, on the recommendation of the council of the senate, with

the approval of the general board of studies, as a professor emeritus in the subject of the professorship previously held by him. A professor emeritus shall not as such receive any stipend. He shall be subject to no conditions as to duties or residence.

THE inauguration of Dr. Edward Dwight Eaton as president of Beloit College took place March 4.

PROFESSOR THOS. H. MONTGOMERY, JR., of the University of Texas, has been appointed professor of zoology at the University of Pennsylvania to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Professor Edwin G. Conklin to Princeton University. Professor Montgomery was assistant professor at Pennsylvania from 1898 to 1903.

IN the faculty of the college of medicine of the University of Wisconsin Dr. Arthur S. Loevenhart, of Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed to the chair of pharmacology and toxicology, and Dr. Charles H. Bunting, of the University of Virginia, to the chair of pathology. Dr. Bunting was graduated from Wisconsin in 1896, and received his medical training at Johns Hopkins. He was subsequently on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins University. For the past two years he has been at the University of Virginia. Dr. Loevenhart is also a graduate of the Johns Hopkins Medical School, where, since 1904, he has been associate in physiological chemistry and pharmacology.

PROFESSOR F. D. HEALD, of the University of Nebraska and botanist of the Nebraska Experiment Station, has been offered the professorship of botany in the University of Texas, at a considerably increased salary. It is not yet known whether or not he will accept the offer.

DR. WM. A. HAMMOND, assistant professor in Cornell University and special lecturer in philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania for the year 1907-8, has been appointed Sage professor of ancient philosophy at Cornell.

DR. E. A. DARLING, has been appointed assistant professor of hygiene at Harvard University.