

country. In case the dues are thus sent to Washington for transmission to Geneva, a check for \$20 for donating members, \$4 for nominal members, and \$2.50 for associate members should be sent, to cover dues, exchange and postage. To those preferring to send directly, Dr. Wiley will send the blank furnished by the congress, on application. It is particularly desired that as many as are able submit definitions for food and drug products, as it is profitable to accumulate as much material as possible, to establish a broad basis for decisions.

Papers on food and drug products are also solicited, and may be sent directly to the appropriate sections or forwarded to Dr. Wiley for transmittal. It is hoped that a large membership in the congress may be secured from the United States.

RECENT REFERENCES TO LAMARCK

THE increased interest in the work of Lamarck is nowhere better evinced than in the number of Lamarckian items which one finds in current journals. In the *Revue Scientifique* (December, 1907) there appears an article on his early career, in *La Nature* (December 21, 1907) a careful study of his paternal family, in the *Journal des Savants* on some of his unpublished writings. And Dr. C. R. Eastman, of Harvard, has now brought to light a manuscript of Lamarck which has in part at least remained unpublished. This document was obtained (probably purchased in Paris) by Professor Alexander Agassiz and was by him presented (1896) to the Museum of Comparative Zoology. It consists of a series of essays, two psychological ("Système de Gall," 40 pp., "Idée et Imagination," 33 pp.), one purely philosophical ("Apperçu analytique des connaissances humaines, avec des divisions et des réflexions tendant à montrer leur degré de certitude, leur source, leur branches principales," 12 pp.) and three zoological ("Questions zoologiques dont la solution est de première importance," 4 pp., "Discussion sur les caractères essentiels des animaux et sur la définition qui peut les embrasser généralement," 12 pp., "Histoire naturelle" (scope of), 4 pp.). Following these are numerous

drawings, doubtless from the hand of Lamarck, some in crude outline, as his "monads," some in color, of which one is a beautifully executed figure of a holothurian. At the instance of Dr. Eastman the manuscript has recently been placed in the hands of Professor Bashford Dean, of Columbia University, for detailed examination and publication.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PRESIDENT ELIOT, of Harvard University, will deliver six lectures at Northwestern University on the Norman W. Harris Foundation. His general subject will be University Administration, and the dates and titles of the separate lectures as follows: Lecture I., "The Trustees." Thursday evening, April 9, at 8 o'clock. Lecture II., "An Inspecting and Concurring body—Alumni Influence." Friday evening, April 10, at 8 o'clock. Lecture III., "The University Faculty." Saturday morning, April 11, at 10 o'clock. Lecture IV., "The Elective System—Academic Distinctions." Saturday evening, April 11, at 8 o'clock. Lecture V., "Methods of Instruction—Social Organization." Monday evening, April 13, at 8 o'clock. Lecture VI., "Administration—The University President." Tuesday evening, April 14, at 8 o'clock.

PROFESSOR W. M. DAVIS, of Harvard University, and Professor A. P. Brigham, of Colgate University, will give several lectures on "The Geography of North America" in the School of Geography to be held at Oxford University from August 10 to 28.

SIR OLIVER LODGE'S presidential address to the Faraday Society, to be given on March 24, will have as its subject "Some Aspects of the Work of Lord Kelvin."

A BANQUET has been tendered to Dr. Robert Koch by the profession in Berlin. A portrait medallion was presented him, the first of a series of medallions of prominent living German physicians.

THE following fifteen candidates have been selected by the council of the Royal Society to be recommended for election as fellows: Mr. W. Barlow, the Earl of Berkeley, Mr. Dugald

Clerk, Professor A. Dendy, Professor H. H. Dixon, Mr. J. Stanley Gardiner, Professor W. Gowland, Mr. J. H. Grace, Professor D. J. Hamilton, Mr. C. I. Forsyth Major, Mr. E. N. Nevill, Mr. W. H. Rivers, the Hon. Bertrand Russell, Dr. Otto Stapf, and Dr. J. F. Thorpe.

AMONG those recently elected members of the Athenæum Club, under the provision which enables the committee to elect a certain number of persons "of distinguished eminence in science, literature, the arts, or for public services," is Dr. John Rose Bradford, F.R.S., physician to University College Hospital, London, and professor of medicine in the medical school.

OFFICERS of the London Institute of Chemistry have been elected as follows: *President*, Dr. P. F. Frankland, F.R.S.; *Vice-presidents*, Dr. M. O. Forster, F.R.S., Mr. Oscar Guttmann, M.I.C.E., Mr. Egbert Grant Hooper, Mr. David Howard, Mr. Herbert Jackson, and Sir William Ramsay, F.R.S. *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. A. G. Salamon.

DR. ARTHUR KEITH, lecturer on anatomy at the London Hospital Medical College, has been appointed conservator of the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, in succession to the late Professor C. Stewart.

A MEETING was held in Birmingham on March 5, as we learn from the *London Times*, to consider what steps should be taken to assist Dr. Hall-Edwards, the surgeon radiographer who recently had his hand removed in consequence of dermatitis caused by the Röntgen rays. Sir Oliver Lodge presided, and proposed that a fund should be raised which should be invested, and that a committee be appointed to control it. Dr. Hall-Edwards had been a genuine enthusiast on the subject, and his painful condition was the result of his persistent and vigorous work in the cause. He had received a communication to the effect that the king was interested in the matter and in sympathy with Dr. Hall-Edwards, but if a pension were granted it could only be a small one. The Bishop of Birmingham supported the motion, which was

carried, and at the close of the meeting it was announced that £309 had been promised.

DRS. EDUARDO LICEAGA, José Terres, Manuel Toussaint and Octavio Gonzales Fabela have been appointed a commission by the National Medical Academy of Mexico to decide whether the theses in typhus fever submitted to that body deserve the \$10,000 prize offered by the government.

DR. REGINALD HEBER FITZ, Hersey professor of the theory and practise of physic in the Harvard Medical School, will retire from teaching at the close of the present academic year.

PROFESSOR BOSANQUET has announced his intention to resign the chair of moral philosophy at St. Andrew's University at the end of the current academical year.

It is proposed to make a grant of £30 from the Worts fund to Mr. A. R. Hinks, of Trinity College, Cambridge, towards defraying his expenses in traveling on the continent of Europe with the view of investigating the methods used in the study of astronomy and geodesy in certain observatories and institutions.

MR. FRANK LEVERETT, of the United States Geological Survey, is now in Europe, with the purpose of making, in connection with his studies in the United States, a comparative study of the glacial formations of Europe. This study will embrace the deposits in and around the Alps, as well as those of the Scandinavian ice-field in Scandinavia, Germany and Russia, and the British deposits.

PROFESSOR W. SAMPSON HANDLEY gave the Hunterian lecture on "The Natural Cure of Cancer" at the Royal College of Surgeons on March 13.

THE council of the British Academy have appointed the Rev. Professor S. R. Driver, fellow of the academy, regius professor of Hebrew in the University of Oxford, to deliver the inaugural course of Schweich lectures under the Leopold Schweich Fund, recently endowed, "for the furtherance of research in the archeology, art, history, languages and literature of ancient civilization, with reference to Biblical study." Dr. Driver

will deliver three lectures on "Archeological Research in Relation to Biblical Study."

THE following course of scientific lectures was given during February at Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa: Dr. Lynds Jones, of Oberlin College, on "Bird Studies on the Washington Coast"; Dr. Frank R. Lillie, of the University of Chicago, on "The Nature and Physical Basis of Heredity"; Dr. T. H. Macbride, of the University of Iowa, on "The City Beautiful."

THE Philosophical Club of the University of Minnesota has arranged a series of lectures on Aspects of Evolution. The probable program is as follows: "Evolution in Chemistry," Professor Frankforter, February 27; "Evolution in Astronomy," Professor Leavenworth, March 5; "Evolution in Geology," Professor Sardeson, March 12; "Evolution in Biology," Professor Clements, March 19; "Evolution in Psychology," Professor Miner, March 26; "Evolution in Ethics," Professor Wilde, April 2; "Evolution in Philosophy," Professor Swenson, April 9.

THE Chicago chapter of the Sigma Xi Society held its usual winter session on March 4, 1908. At the regular business meeting nine new members were admitted, and a report was presented by Professor S. W. Williston of the business transacted at the convention of the society held January 2. The address of the evening was given by President H. P. Judson on the subject "Research in the University."

IN the Physiological Laboratory at Breslau there has been unveiled, with due ceremony, a marble bust of Purkinje, the eminent physiologist.

TELEGRAPHIC advices from Zacapa, Guatemala, announce the sudden death from a tropical fever of Dr. William Ashbrook Kellerman, professor of botany at the Ohio State University, on March 8. Dr. Kellerman was the head of a party engaged in the study of the flora of Guatemala, especially the parasitic fungi. The expedition, his fourth to that country, was reported to have been very successful and his safe return was soon expected.

SIR ALFRED COOPER, a distinguished London surgeon, has died at the age of seventy years.

THE death is also announced of Professor Laurent, professor of mathematical analysis in the Paris Ecole Polytechnique and Institut National Agronomique.

THERE will be a civil service examination on April 15 and 16 for the position of scientific assistant in the Department of Agriculture, at salaries ranging from \$840 to \$2,000 per annum, depending upon the experience and qualifications of appointees. As a result of this examination certification will be made to fill the following-named vacancies: scientific assistant in plant breeding, \$1,400 per annum, Bureau of Plant Industry (experience in corn breeding in semi-arid or arid regions); scientific assistant in soil bacteriology, \$1,400 per annum, Bureau of Plant Industry. On April 22 there will be an examination for the position of assistant in grain standardization (male), Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, at salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,800 per annum.

PRINCE ROLAND BONAPARTE has placed at the disposal of the Paris Academy of Sciences a sum of \$20,000 to be used for grants for scientific research.

MR. PETER WHITE, Marquette, has made a gift of \$1,000 to the library of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, for the purpose of purchasing rare medical books.

THE valuable collection of more than 2,000 dermatological casts, owned by the late Professor Lassar, has been presented by his widow to the city of Hamburg, his native town. The collection is to be installed in the St. George Hospital.

THE Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City, announces the establishment of the George Blumenthal, Jr., fellowship in pathology with a stipend of \$500 a year.

MESSRS. WITHERY & Co. will publish very shortly an account by Mr. M. J. Nicoll of three long voyages on the Earl of Crawford's yacht "Valhalla." The author describes the bird and other animal life of many islands seldom or never before explored. The valu-

able collections made by Mr. Nicoll during the voyages have been presented to the Natural History Museum by Lord Crawford, who is one of the trustees of that institution.

ABOUT thirty members of the New York Physics Club are attending the free course of lectures given to them by the Department of Electrical Engineering at Columbia University. These will be followed by a course of lectures in thermodynamics given by Professor Charles E. Lucke, of the department of mechanical engineering, from 4 to 5 P.M., on Tuesdays in April. All teachers of physics are invited to attend these lectures.

THE Harvard Engineering Society will hold its tenth annual dinner at the Union on March 21. Professor Hollis will preside, and the following gentlemen will speak: President Eliot, Frederick P. Fish '75, E. A. S. Clarke '84, president of the Lackawanna Steel Company; George A. Kimball, chief engineer of the Boston Elevated Railway Company; H. L. Smyth '83, professor of mining and metallurgy; George A. McKay, president of the Harvard Engineering Society; and others. In connection with the dinner it is proposed to organize an Association of Harvard Engineers, and a meeting for this purpose will be held at the Union on the same day.

PROFESSOR KAMERLINGH OHNES, of Leiden, announces that he has converted helium into a solid. The last evaporating parts are said to show considerable vapor pressures, as if the liquid state is jumped over.

WE learn from the London *Times* that at a meeting of the Royal Society held on the fifth ult. Professor Thorpe, of the Government Laboratory, presented a communication on "The Atomic Weight of Radium," in which he gave the results of an investigation he had been commissioned to make by a committee of the society. About two years ago the Royal Society received a considerable amount of the residues from the uranium workings of the mines at Joachimsthal, in Bohemia, belonging to the Austrian government, in which material Madame Curie first detected the existence of radium. These residues have been worked up, partly in France,

and partly in London by Dr. Thorpe, who extracted from them the radium chloride which served for his determination of the atomic weight of this rare element. Dr. Thorpe finds from his experiments that the atomic weight of radium is 227, which is in almost exact agreement with the number recently published by Madame Curie.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

AN anonymous benefactor, considering that the year 1909, in which biologists have decided to celebrate in Cambridge the centenary of Darwin's birth, is a suitable occasion for founding a chair of biology, has offered a sum of £300 a year towards this purpose on condition that it shall be the duty of the professor to teach or make researches in heredity. The council of the senate proposes to create a professorship in biology for a period of five years at an annual stipend of £700.

THE chancellor, Lord Rosebery, will visit University College on the afternoon of March 26, and will formally open the new libraries and the new south wing, which includes lecture rooms for the faculty of arts, the departments of geology, hygiene and experimental psychology, also large extensions of the departments of applied mathematics, of mechanical, electrical and municipal engineering, and accommodation for the new hydraulic laboratory.

COL. E. A. WALL, of Salt Lake City, has established a research fellowship (\$500) in the State School of Mines, the engineering department of the University of Utah, located at Salt Lake City. This fellowship is awarded annually in June to some graduate student of ability to promote research work in mining, ore-dressing, or metallurgy.

PROFESSOR CHARLES L. BEACH, of the University of Vermont, has been elected president of the Connecticut Agricultural College at Storrs.

M. CAMILLE MATIGNON has been appointed professor of mineral chemistry at the Collège de France in succession to M. H. Le Châtelier, who recently accepted the chair of general chemistry at the Sorbonne.