

the secretaries of the respective sections and suggests that each secretary of a section correspond with the member of the committee named above in connection with his section. The first point is to learn whether the section will hold a summer meeting at Hanover. If that is decided in the affirmative, the section representative will be pleased to correspond as to the arrangements. Address at Hanover, N. H.

The chairman of the committee announces that an invitation has been received from the president of the Blue Mountain Forest Association, Mr. Austin Corbin, for members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science to visit the Blue Mountain Forest, otherwise known as the Corbin Blue Mountain Park or Preserve covering about 40,000 acres, where the celebrated herds of buffalo, deer, mountain goats, boars, etc., may be seen. The western entrance to this reservation is about sixteen miles from Hanover, and it may be feasible to arrange for such a visit with a party not too large. Whether this is expedient or not will depend somewhat on the advices received as to how many may wish to make this trip.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. J. J. THOMSON, Cavendish professor of experimental physics, at Cambridge, will preside at the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science to be held in Winnepeg next year.

THE Turin Academy of Science has conferred the Bressa prize of about \$2,000 on Dr. Ernest Rutherford, professor of physics at Victoria University, Manchester.

PRESIDENT ELIOT, of Harvard University, has been appointed Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown of Italy by King Victor Emmanuel. President Eliot celebrated his seventy-fourth birthday on March 20.

MR. THOMAS A. EDISON has so far recovered from the recent operation for mastoiditis and aural abscesses that he has been able to go to his Florida place at Fort Myers.

PROFESSOR S. E. CHAILLÉ, professor of physiology and comparative anatomy and dean of

the medical department of Tulane University, has been awarded a retiring pension by the Carnegie foundation. Professor Chaillé was born in 1830 and graduated from Harvard University in 1851.

PROFESSOR S. A. LATTIMORE, head of the department of chemistry at the University of Rochester, will retire in June, after forty years of service as professor of chemistry in that institution, and having reached the age of eighty years.

MR. F. B. WEEKS, who has been connected with the U. S. Geological Survey for the past eighteen years, has recently resigned. His address for two or three months while completing certain reports for the survey will be 1201 Euclid Street, Washington, D. C.

PROFESSOR A. SCHUBERG, of Heidelberg, has been made head of the department of protozoa investigation in the Royal Bureau of Health at Berlin.

ANDREW L. WINTON, for many years chemist at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, has been appointed chief of the food and drug laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for the city of Chicago.

AT the termination of the course on national forests the senior class of the Forest School of Yale University presented Mr. William B. Greeley with a loving cup. Mr. Greeley will leave New Haven soon and resume his work at Hot Springs, Cal., as supervisor of the South Sierra National Forest.

AT the University of Kansas the board of regents has granted leave of absence to Professor C. H. Ashton, of the department of mathematics and to Professor E. F. Stimpson, of the department of physics. Professor Ashton will spend sixteen months in Europe at the University of Munich; Professor Stimpson will study at some eastern university for a year.

DR. F. M. ANDREWS, associate professor of botany at Indiana University, has received the research table of the Smithsonian Institution at the Naples Zoological Station for the months of April and May.

AT the recent meeting of the faculty of arts and sciences of Harvard University the fol-

lowing professors were appointed to represent Harvard at coming meetings of European learned societies: Professor E. H. Hall, of the physics department, who is now in Europe, at the celebration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the Reconstitution de l'Academie des Sciences, Agriculture, Arts et Belles-Lettres d'Aix, at Aix-en-Provence in April; Professor C. R. Lanman, of the department of Indic philology, and Professor G. F. Moore, of the Semitic department, at the Congrès Internationale des Orientalistes, at Copenhagen in August; Professor G. F. Moore at the Third International Congress for the History of Religions, at Oxford, in September.

DURING the coming summer Professor J. E. Wolff and Dr. G. R. Mansfield, of the geological department of Harvard University, intend to conduct a course in the form of a field expedition in the Rocky Mountains of southern Montana. The party will meet at Bozeman, Montana, some time in July, and after collecting its outfit there will move south and southwest by way of Virginia City and Alder Gulch through Ruby Canyon, into the Henry Lake country. It will return through the Medicine River Valley. The whole trip will occupy about five weeks.

The death is announced of Professor Austin C. Apgar, vice-principal of the New Jersey State Normal School, and the author of several books on geography and natural history.

DR. A. HOWITT, author of important anthropological works on the natives of Australia, died on March 8, at Melbourne, at the age of seventy-seven years.

SIR DENZIL IBBETSON, eminent for his contributions to the ethnology of India, has died at the age of sixty-one years.

DR. WILLIAM EDWARD WILSON, F.R.S., died on March 6 at the age of fifty-seven years. Dr. Wilson had erected an astronomical observatory and an astrophysical laboratory on his estate in Westmeath, Ireland, and had there carried forward astronomical and astrophysical researches of great importance on radiant heat and light.

DR. H. C. SORBY, F.R.S., known for his researches on the microscopical structure of

rocks and metals and for the active part he has taken in developing science, literature and art in the city of Sheffield, died on March 9, in his eighty-second year.

DR. LUDWIG WEDEKIND, professor of mathematics at the Technical Institute of Karlsruhe, has died at the age of sixty-nine years.

PROFESSOR WM. T. SEDGWICK, professor of biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will give the annual address before the Medical School of Yale University at commencement, his subject being "Preventive Medicine and the Public Health."

PROFESSOR E. F. NICHOLS, of Columbia University, delivered a lecture before the Society of Sigma Xi, at Yale University, on March 9. The subject of the lecture was "The pressure due to light and its consequences," and the lecturer introduced a number of experiments as illustrations.

PROFESSOR THEODORE W. RICHARDS, of Harvard University, has completed a course of lectures before the Lowell Institute, on "The Early History and Recent Development of the Atomic Theory." The titles of the separate lectures were as follows:

February 17—"Dalton's Atomic Theory and its Relation to that of the Ancient Philosophers."

February 20—"Avogadro's Molecular Theory and its Relation to Dalton's Atomic Theory."

February 24—"Atomic Weights and Faraday's Law."

February 27—"Molecular Structure."

March 2—"The Periodic System of the Elements, and the Kinetic Theory of Gases."

March 5—"Atomic Volumes, and the Significance of their Changes."

March 9—"Atomic Compressibilities and the Heat of Chemical Reaction."

March 12—"The Hypothesis of Electrolytic Dissociation and the Possible Decomposition of the Chemical 'Atom.'"

In the bill making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, and just introduced into the House, the total sum appropriated is \$11,431,346. Of this amount the following sums are appropriated to what may be termed the scientific bureaus and offices of the department: Forest Service, \$3,796,200; Weather

Bureau, \$1,662,260; Bureau of Plant Industry, \$1,331,076; Bureau of Animal Industry, \$1,330,860; Bureau of Chemistry, \$791,720; Bureau of Entomology, \$434,960; Office of Experiment Stations \$230,620; Bureau of Statistics, \$221,440; Bureau of Soils, \$204,700; Office of Public Roads, \$87,390; Bureau of Biological Survey, \$62,000, making a total of \$10,254,226.

DR. JUDSON B. BLACK, M.P. for Hants, N. S., has proposed a resolution in the Canadian House of Commons, calling on the government to perfect an organization and create a department of public health, whereby all matters in connection with the health of the dominion would be consolidated under one responsible head, instead of, as at present, being scattered through five or six other departments. All the medical men in the house spoke strongly favoring the resolution.

It is intended to establish an institute for tropical medicine at Townsville, in Northern Queensland. The general management will be undertaken by the three Australian Universities having medical schools—Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. The federal government of Australia has agreed to subsidize the work at the rate of £450 per annum, and the government of Queensland will give £250; and these sums will be increased by private subscriptions. The managers of the Townsville Hospital will set aside a building for a laboratory, free of charge.

A COOPERATIVE agreement has been made between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, under which the forest service is to take charge of all forest work on Indian reservations.

THE Fifth Pan-American Medical Congress is to meet at Guatemala, from August 6 to 10, 1908, and arrangements are being made for twenty-one sections. English, Spanish, French and Portuguese are the congress languages, and papers intended for the congress should be in the hands of the secretary, Dr. José Azurdia, Escuela de Medicina de Guatemala, before July 15.

THE steamer *Nimrod*, of Lieutenant Shackleton's expedition, has returned to New

Zealand from the Antarctic. The expedition has met with very trying experiences owing to fierce blizzards and intense cold. The *Nimrod* is expected to return to the Antarctic next January to fetch the expedition, and she should be back in England some time in the latter part of 1909. The ship is so badly strained that she has had to go into dock for repairs. The *Nimrod* has landed the following invalids: Dr. Mitchell, Mr. Mackintosh and Mr. Cotton.

THE second International Conference on Sleeping Sickness met on March 9 at the Foreign Office, London. The conference, which was convened at the suggestion of the British government, was expected to last for about a week. The complete list of delegates of the seven countries represented at the conference is as follows:

Germany—Dr. Robert Koch, Herr H. de Jacobs, Dr. Steudel.

Spain—The Marquis de Villalobar, Dr. F. Murillo Palacios.

Congo Free State—Colonel Lantonnio, Dr. van Campenhout.

France—M. Le Myre de Vilers, M. Ronssin, Dr. Kermorgant, Dr. Cureau, Dr. Giard.

Great Britain—Lord Fitzmaurice, Sir W. Foster, Mr. A. Walrond Clarke, Mr. H. J. Read, Sir Patrick Manson, Dr. Rose Bradford, Sir R. Boyce, Colonel D. Bruce.

Italy—Professor Rocco Santoliquido, Professor Adolfo Cotta.

Portugal—Dr. Ayres Kopke.

The conference being regarded as a continuation of the first conference, Lord Fitzmaurice again presided. The proceedings were informal and brief, the whole sitting lasting only about an hour. The conference was opened by Lord Fitzmaurice, who cordially welcomed the delegates on behalf of the British government. The delegates then began the discussion of the draft general acts drawn up by the British and German governments, and Professor Rocco Santoliquido, the principal Italian delegate, delivered a long address setting forth the views of his government as to the steps to be taken for combating sleeping sickness.

WHEN the Royal Commission on Experiments on Animals was appointed, a meeting

was held of delegates of scientific and medical societies, and a committee was formed (Professor Starling's committee) to ensure that the evidence as to the value and necessity of these experiments should be presented to the Royal Commission in proper order. The work of Professor Starling's committee came to an end when the commission ceased to require further evidence. At a meeting of the committee it was decided to form a society, called the Research Defence Society, to make generally known the facts about experiments on animals, and to offer steady opposition to the anti-vivisection societies. Among those who have already joined the society are eminent men of science, leading hospital authorities, and distinguished physicians and surgeons. The society hopes to be able to give information to all inquirers, to publish articles, to send speakers when required to debates, and to be of assistance to all who want to have a clear knowledge of the facts of the case.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

PLANS for two new buildings have been accepted by the board of trustees of the University of Illinois. One is a physics laboratory, to cost \$250,000, the other an extension of the natural history building, to cost \$150,000. The physics building will be three stories in height. The site is directly east of the engineering hall. There are to be two lecture rooms, both on the ground floor, one seating 300 and the other 125 persons. The east wing will be used largely for smaller laboratories, and the west wing for the larger laboratories for electrical measurements. Plans for the extension to the natural history building will more than double the size of the structure. The building will house the department of geology, the State Geological Survey, the general administration offices of the university and of the college, the department of mathematics, and provide additional classrooms for some other departments.

MR. JOHNATHAN THOMAS, a member of the board of trustees, has given Washburn College, Topeka, Kansas, a sum of money suffi-

cient to build and equip a modern gymnasium. Work on the building will be begun as soon as plans are perfected.

MR. W. W. ASTOR has offered to give a sum of \$50,000 in addition to the \$50,000 he had already subscribed, to the endowment fund of Oxford University. The gifts are conditional on the sum of \$500,000 being raised.

MR. JAMES ROBERT TURLE, of London, has bequeathed about \$50,000 to the London School of Medicine for Women, and about \$40,000 and half the residue of his estate to the Bedford College for women. He also leaves other public bequests.

It is now definitely settled that the Andover Seminary will be removed to Cambridge, and affiliated with Harvard University. The Andover seminary has an endowment of over \$1,000,000 and five professors, but very few students.

It is reported that the Rev. Dr. S. Parks Cadman, pastor of the congregational church in Brooklyn, has been elected president of Wesleyan University in succession to the Rev. Dr. Bradford P. Raymond.

DR. CARL E. SEASHORE, professor of psychology, has been elected dean of the Graduate College in the State University of Iowa.

GORDON M. BENTLEY, instructor in zoology at the University of Tennessee, has been promoted to an assistant professorship.

MISS E. N. THOMAS, assistant in the department of botany, University College, London, has been appointed lecturer and head of the department of botany, in the Bedford College for Women.

DR. OTTO MÜGGE, professor of geology and mineralogy at Königsberg, has accepted a call to Göttingen.

DR. WALTER KAUFMANN, associate professor of physics at Bonn, has accepted a call to the chair of physics at Königsberg.

DR. FRIEDRICH LOEFFLER, professor at Greifswald, has been called to the chair of hygiene in the Berlin Veterinary School in the place of the late Professor Ostertag.