Storkersen, started in three sledges with 18 dogs on a trip over the ice towards the north. The thermometer showed 56 degrees Centigrade below zero; nevertheless, they often came across big crevices among the ice floes. About 50 miles from shore they found water which they sounded with a newly-invented machine to the depth of 800 meters without reaching bottom. Sixty miles farther on no change was recorded, until at last, turning towards the southeast, they found bottom. They followed this edge of the continental shelf towards the east, but had soon to return owing to the strong current. Captain Mikkelsen was thus able to prove that deep water exists north of Alaska to a great distance. On the return journey the ice had started drifting and thick fogs enveloped everything, but on May 13, after 55 days of sledge journey, the explorers reached land again, only to find that the ship had been lost in the meantime. The ice pressure had proved too much for her, but the crew had saved all the instruments, food and utensils.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE class of '83 of Harvard University will present to the university for its general endowment a fund of more than $100,000.

BY the will of George Bliss Griggs, who graduated from Yale University in 1872 and who died on May 22, Yale is bequeathed a fund of $75,000, to be used to found scholarships for worthy students in the academic department.

BY the will of Colonel C. S. Barrett, of Cleveland, O., a member of the class of '63 of Norwich University, the institution receives an unrestricted endowment of $100,000.

THE contract has been let for a new agricultural building for the University of Missouri which will cost $100,000. This building will contain the administrative offices of the College of Agriculture and Experiment Station, and will house also the departments of animal husbandry and agronomy and the State Soil Survey. It will likewise house the State Board of Agriculture, including the offices of the state veterinarian, the state highway commissioner and the pure food and dairy commissioner. The building is to be of native limestone, two stories and a high basement, with an extreme length of 266 feet. It will be thoroughly fireproof, and is to be completed by the middle of the next school year.

THE trustees of the Massachusetts College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts at Amherst have voted to establish a graduate school with Professor Charles H. Fernald as its head. It will confer the degrees of master of science and doctor of philosophy.

PROFESSOR C. H. BEACH, of the University of Vermont, has been elected president of the Connecticut College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. Professor Beach is succeeded in the chair of animal husbandry at Vermont by Mr. Robert M. Washburn, state dairy and food commissioner of Missouri.

THE following appointments, to take effect in August, 1908, have been made in Stanford University: John Andrew Bergström, of Indiana University, to be professor of education; Burt Estes Howard, of Los Angeles, to be professor of political science; J. E. McClelland, to be assistant professor of mining; John Kester Bonnell, to be instructor in English; F. O. Ellenwood, to be instructor in mechanical engineering; Robert E. Richardson, to be instructor in bionomics; L. Lance Burlingame, to be instructor in botany. The following promotions have been made: Allyn Abbott Young, from associate professor to be professor of economics; Frederick John Rogers, from assistant professor to associate professor of physics; Wesley Newcomb Hohfeld, from assistant professor to associate professor of law; Henry Waldgrave Stuart, from assistant professor to associate professor of philosophy; Charles Andrew Huston, from instructor to be assistant professor of law; Edwin Chapin Starks, from curator to be assistant professor of zoology; Samuel B. Charters, Jr., from instructor to be assistant professor of electrical engineering; Everett P. Lesley, from instructor to be assistant professor of mechanical engineering; George Holland Sabine, from instructor to be assistant professor of philosophy; Robert B. Harshe,

from instructor to be assistant professor of graphic arts.

The following promotions have been made at Lehigh University: L. D. Conkling becomes assistant professor of civil engineering; S. S. Seyfert, assistant professor of electrical engineering; A. W. Klein, assistant professor of mechanical engineering; Joseph Daniels, assistant professor of mining engineering; J. W. Miller, assistant professor of mathematics; J. E. Stocker, assistant professor of mathematics and astronomy; F. R. Ingalsbe, assistant professor of geology; C. S. Fox, assistant professor of modern languages. In the department of chemistry D. J. McAdam, Jr., has been promoted from assistant in chemistry to instructor in physical chemistry and qualitative analysis; F. S. Beattie from instructor in chemistry to instructor in industrial chemistry and qualitative analysis.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

To the Editor of Science: As secretary of the American Society of Naturalists it has recently been necessary for me to become more familiar with the organization and relations of this society and to face its problems from a new point of view, especially in connection with arrangements for a program for the next meeting in December.

Some of my suggestions will probably be benefitted by discussion and, hence, should be published in advance of the meeting. I am aware that this matter was brought up in Chicago some years ago, but as action is still delayed I shall try to formulate the problem concisely in the hope of securing the attention of the society.

The recent publication of the program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for a Darwin celebration shows most clearly how urgent this problem is. Here arrangements, peculiarly the province of the naturalists, have been perfected without consulting their official representatives! Speakers have been engaged and dates set which may conflict seriously with the plans of the Society of Naturalists now maturing. Yet the American Association evidently desires to foster biological interests in undertaking such an extensive and appropriate program. The difficulty lies in the faulty organization of the naturalists! I have accidentally learned of a Darwinian celebration to be held about the same time under the auspices of the botanists. Other affiliated societies have not been heard from. Such lack of an organized cooperation between these societies must generally bring about diffuse results with more or less duplication or conflict. In this case, though each of the three or more Darwinian celebrations will probably prove to be well worth while, a proper recognition of the Society of Naturalists, as a primary natural division of the American Association, would have secured immediately a well-balanced correlation of effort resulting in a single celebration, even more effectively organized and representative. If, however, the society is to be thought of as a division of the American Association, it must be conceded the power of initiating and controlling action relating to the Naturalists.

The plan of organization for the Society of Naturalists, suggested below, would not merge it with any other society nor destroy its individuality, as has been feared at times would happen; on the contrary, it should gain a more dignified position, and its usefulness would be more generally recognized.

The following is my idea:

1. The Society of Naturalists is largely made up of members of affiliated societies, and still represents a real cooperation between these related special interests which have developed since its foundation. This cooperation should be maintained and extended by an effective organization.

2. The activity of this society, however, is now practically restricted to an annual dinner and to an annual discussion, though it makes occasional and irregular attempts at united effort when some common cause must be advanced, as, for instance, cooperation in biological investigation and teaching, or the dealing with educational, sociological or health problems, involving a national effort of the biological societies.