

iary steamer *Erik*, and putting down a coal depot at Etah, the *Roosevelt* will part company with the *Erik*, turning south for home.

I shall then endeavor to force the *Roosevelt* through Kane Basin, Kennedy Channel and Robeson Channel, to winter quarters at Cape Sheridan on the north coast of Grant Land. I hope to get my ship to Cape Sheridan not later than September 15.

Early in February, 1909, I shall leave the ship with dogs and sledges, in the effort to reach the Pole across the ice of the central Polar Sea.

Returning I shall probably come down upon the northern coast of Greenland, and follow that coast back to the *Roosevelt*, which should be reached about the end of June, 1909.

If the sledging journey has been successful the *Roosevelt* will then force her way south the latter part of July, and I shall hope to get in touch with the world again in September or October of 1909.

Should the effort of the spring of 1909 prove unsuccessful, I have supplies and equipment with which to remain another year, and make a second attempt in February, 1910.

Details of the movements of the expedition (as far as the imperfect communication of the North will permit) can be obtained from my friend, Mr. H. L. Bridgman, secretary and treasurer of the Peary Arctic Club.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Oklahoma constitution contains a provision making it obligatory upon the legislature to establish a Geological Survey. In pursuance of this provision the first state legislature passed a law placing the survey under the control of a commission consisting of the governor, the state superintendent of public instruction and the president of the State University. The sum of \$15,000 was appropriated for the work. The commission met on July 25, and elected as director Dr. Cha. N. Gould, head of the department of geology at the State University of Oklahoma. He was instructed to report as soon as possible on the building stone, road material, and oil and gas of the state. Parties are now in the field investigating these problems.

AMONG the recently elected senators in Italy are G. B. Grassi, professor of comparative anatomy at Rome; A. Carle, professor of

surgery at Turin; P. Foa, professor of pathologic anatomy at Turin; G. D. Novara, professor of surgery at Genoa, and G. Paladino, professor of physiology at Naples.

THE president and vice-presidents of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, on behalf of the council, addressed to Mr. Thomas Bryant, F.R.C.S., a past-president of the college, on July 16, a letter congratulating him on attaining the age of 80 years and still retaining perfect health of mind and body.

SUMS have now been received amounting to a total of \$225,000 for the Koch endowment, to be applied in the crusade against tuberculosis as Dr. Koch may direct.

THE Cornplanter medal for Iroquois Research administered by the Cayuga County Historical Society, of Auburn, New York, has been awarded to Dr. David Boyle, of Toronto.

DR. ALEXANDER TSCHIRCH, professor of pharmacology at Berlin, has been elected rector of the university.

DR. W. R. WHITNEY has been appointed non-resident professor of chemical research in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

PROFESSOR SALVIN-MOORE has resigned the directorship of the Liverpool Cancer Research Committee, and the professorship of experimental cytology in the university.

PRESIDENT GEORGE T. WINSTON, of the North Carolina Agricultural College and Station, has retired with a pension from the Carnegie foundation.

MR. F. G. CLAPP, for a number of years with the United States Geological Survey in the investigation and reports of coal, oil, gas and artesian waters, has resigned in order to take up professional work in geology and allied branches of engineering.

DR. JULIUS HAHN, professor of physics at Vienna, will shortly reach the age of seventy years and will retire from the active duties of his chair.

DR. W. DÖNITZ, head of the scientific department of the Royal Institute for Infectious Diseases in Berlin, has celebrated his seventieth birthday.

DR. EDMUND OTIS HOVEY has returned to the American Museum of Natural History after an absence of three months in the West Indies. The principal points visited by him were the islands of Martinique, St. Vincent, Guadeloupe, Grenada and Barbados, in all of which he made collections for the museum supplementary to those previously obtained by him. He was particularly fortunate in securing photographs showing the changes which have taken place during the last five years in both of the active volcanoes, having camped out on Mt. Pelé for ten days and on La Soufrière for five days. Temperature observations on the fumaroles were made, including pyrometer observations on the high-temperature vents of the summit of the new cone of Pelé, where a heat of 959° F. was found. No dust or débris is being discharged at Pelé, although there is abundant and vigorous steam action. The Soufrière of St. Vincent is absolutely quiet. The bottom of the crater is now occupied by a beautiful lake, which is apparently as large as that for which the volcano was famous before the eruptions of 1902-3. Dr. Hovey also obtained many interesting data regarding the extent of erosion and the advance of vegetation and cultivation in both devastated areas. Mrs. Hovey accompanied him on the expedition, including even the camping out on the volcanoes.

A RECENT letter from Mr. V. Stefánsson, who, with Dr. R. M. Anderson and party, left New York City in April on an expedition to the mouth of the Mackenzie River under the auspices of the American Museum of Natural History and the Geological Survey of Canada, reports the successful arrival of the party at Smith's Landing on the Slave River, from which point they were planning to push on to Macpherson in time to make connections with the mail leaving there about the middle of July.

WORD has been received from Mr. Roy C. Andrews, who is now on the Pacific coast near Victoria, B. C., for the purpose of collecting Cetacean specimens for the American Museum of Natural History, that he has secured a fine skeleton of a humpback whale, together with

a complete set of baleen. At the time of writing he had measured, photographed and described twenty-four whales of this species, having at the same time made a careful study of their external and osteological characters with a special view to showing individual variation. There being a scarcity of sulphur-bottom whales at this point, Mr. Andrews was planning to go to Kynquot, on the other side of Vancouver Island, in the hope of obtaining one of these animals, terminating his expedition with a trip to Murderer's Cove, Alaska, where dolphins are reported to be very plentiful.

WE learn from the *Journal of the American Medical Association* that a life-size statue of S. P. Botkin, 1832-1889, was unveiled in the grounds of the Military Medical Academy at St. Petersburg on the eighteenth anniversary of his death, May 25. In the memorial address Sirotinin stated that of the seventy pupils who worked under Botkin's direction more than half have become professors at various universities. Botkin founded in 1869 and maintained the Russian *Archives for Internal Medicine*, and in 1880 founded the *Weekly Clinical Gazette*, better known as *Botkin's Gazette*, which became very popular.

JAMES DUNCAN HAGUE, a well-known consulting engineer and mining expert of New York City, at one time connected with the U. S. Geological Survey, fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Geological Society, died at his country home at Stockbridge, Mass., on August 3, at the age of seventy-two years.

MR. ARTHUR LISTER, F.R.S., of Leytonstone, the son of J. J. Lister, F.R.S., and the younger brother of Lord Lister, eminent for his work on the Mycetozoa, died on July 19, at the age of seventy-eight years.

MYLIUS ERICHSEN, the Danish explorer, and two companions have perished in a snowstorm, while carrying on explorations on the north-eastern coast of Greenland.

SIR JOHN BANKS, an Irish physician, known for his work on nervous diseases, died on July 16, at the age of ninety-seven years.

THE Forest Service has arranged for six sub-offices, to be situated in six cities which are centers of interest in forestry. Two of these are at San Francisco and Denver, and one will probably be Portland. It is also expected that offices will be opened in the states of Montana and Utah.

FOREIGN journals announce that a Society of the Observatories of Mont Blanc has been regularly constituted, with a board of directors largely chosen from the Academy of Sciences, for the more systematic continuation of the work begun by the late M. Janssen and M. Vallot. The society has decided to place the Vallot and Janssen observatories under the direction of M. Vallot. With this object the latter has given his establishment to the society just formed—a purely scientific association—which appeals for members and funds. The secretary is Comte de La Baume-Pluvinel, 9 Rue de La Baume, Paris.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

PROFESSOR JAMES DOUGLAS has given to the University of Arizona ten thousand dollars as an endowment, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of "instruments of precision and research" in the School of Mines and the Department of Mineralogy.

THE Peabody College for Teachers at Nashville, Tennessee, which is at present a department of the University of Nashville, but is soon to be established on a separate foundation by the trustees of the Peabody Education Fund, has, by recent action of its authorities, raised its entrance requirements to the full fourteen units as defined by the Carnegie Foundation. The entrance subjects are arranged in three groups, the first requiring Latin and Greek, the second Latin and modern language, the third Latin or modern languages. In the second and third groups there are many alternatives in language, history and science. Following these entrance groups are three four-year courses, all leading to the degree of bachelor of arts. The work in the freshman and sophomore years is mainly prescribed while that in the junior and senior years is nearly all elective. During the last

two years the student must select forty per cent. of his work from the professional courses given in the Department of Education, Psychology and Philosophy. The year is divided into quarters, and the classes meet five times a week, and each student is expected to take three courses. The minimum requirement for graduation is thirty-six courses of five hours each, or a total of one hundred and eighty hours.

WE learn from the London *Times* that at a meeting of the governing body of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, held on July 24, a letter from the Royal Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851 was read, intimating that the commissioners had appropriated the whole of the remaining site of their estate at South Kensington for the purposes of the Imperial College of Science and Technology. The question of the provision of additional buildings and laboratories on the sites granted by the commissioners was under consideration, and it was decided, in the first instance, to proceed at once with the provision of new mining and metallurgical buildings for the Royal School of Mines, and to invite Sir Aston Webb, R.A., to serve as architect to these buildings and of such other buildings as the governing body may determine to erect. The Hon. R. J. Strutt, F.R.S., was appointed additional professor of physics and Mr. S. Herbert Cox, professor of mining. Further, an additional professor of zoology, a professor of metallurgy, and an assistant professor of botany are to be appointed in the near future.

DR. CHARLES OLIVER MERICA has been elected president of the University of Wyoming.

DR. H. A. CHRISTIAN has been appointed Hersey professor of the theory and practise of physic at the Harvard Medical School.

AT Yale University Louis Doremus Huntoon, M.E., at present assistant professor of mining and metallurgy in the Scientific School, has been promoted to a full professorship; George Surface, Ph.D., of the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed instructor in geography, and George M. Collwell, Ph.D., instructor in mathematics.