

Illinois by the president, or that tenure of office is insecure because of autocratic administration; therefore, without entering at all into a discussion of the case referred to in said articles, be it

*Resolved*, by the senate of the University of Illinois (a body which includes all heads of departments and full professors in the university), that it is our belief that each member of the faculty has entire freedom of opinion, that he is free to express his opinions on all matters of university administration and educational policy to his colleagues and to the president without interference and without fear that it will endanger his position.

*Resolved*, That we hereby express our confidence in the president of the university and our conviction that he administers his high office as a colleague rather than as a superior.

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of the university senate the course of the administration has been such as to stimulate to a marked degree the higher scientific and educational interests of the university.

*Resolved*, That as members of the faculty we assure the president of our loyal and hearty support in the varied and difficult responsibilities imposed upon him as the executive head of this university.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE Draper's Company will erect for Oxford University an electrical laboratory at a cost of £22,000 and will give an additional sum of £1,000 for its equipment.

THE H. K. Cushing Laboratory of Experimental Medicine at Western Reserve University will be dedicated on Friday, November 20, at 2 o'clock, when Professor William H. Welch, of the Johns Hopkins University, will make the address.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY has bought within the past year for the benefit of the College of Agriculture and the Veterinary College approximately 500 acres of ground lying contiguous to its other holdings.

MRS. MARY FISKE SPENCER, of Oberlin, has presented to the botanical laboratory at Oberlin College a collection of seven thousand European plants, gathered during twenty-five years of residence in Munich.

THE council of the Royal College of Surgeons, of London, has adopted resolutions which will in future admit women to the examinations of the conjoint examining board in England, to the examination for the diploma in public health, to the examinations for the fellowship, and to the examinations for the license in dental surgery.

DR. FLORIAN CAJORI, head professor of mathematics in Colorado College, has again accepted the deanship of the Engineering School.

DR. DANIEL STARCH, instructor in experimental psychology in Wellesley College, has been appointed instructor in psychology in the University of Wisconsin.

DR. T. H. McHALTON has resigned as horticulturist of the Georgia Experiment Station, to take the position of adjunct professor in charge of the Horticultural Department of the Georgia State College of Agriculture at the University of Georgia, Athens.

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#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### DR. O. P. HAY ON THE SKULL OF DIPLODOCUS

My attention has been called to-day to an article in *SCIENCE* from the pen of my friend, Dr. O. P. Hay, in which he indulges in certain criticisms of my paper on the "Osteology of *Diplodocus*" published in the *Memoirs* of the Carnegie Museum, Volume II, page 225 *et seq.*

"*Humanum est errare*," and it is quite possible I have made mistakes. I shall be glad to accept corrections when I am convinced they are well founded. Until, however, I have time to reexamine the whole subject I am not inclined to adopt Dr. Hay's opinion as final. His *ipse dixit* does not carry conviction with it, especially as I am aware that he is only beginning his studies in this difficult field of investigation. We all acknowledge him to be a competent student of the Testudinata, but his investigations as to the skulls of the dinosauria are of quite recent origin.

Leaving out of sight difficult questions which relate to the interpretation of the foramina of the skull intended to give exit to

the nerves issuing from the brain, which require careful reexamination at leisure, and passing over as not worthy of comment the *lapsus calami* on page 235 to which he calls attention, and the importance of which he magnifies, as it is abundantly corrected elsewhere, I wish to protest against the misrepresentations contained in his article, founded upon a total failure to understand my meaning and attitude.

Dr. Hay labors to make it appear that I suggest that *Diplodocus* was an animal "with three pairs of nostrils." I never suggested such a thought and no fair interpretation of my words could lead to it. In my paper I simply called attention to the obvious fact that two openings in the bones of the skull apparently leading into the narial cavity occur on either side in advance of the large posterior opening, which Professor Marsh interpreted as the nasal aperture. *They are there!* Dr. Hay is at liberty to amuse himself at his leisure in endeavoring to explain them as he pleases. I did say of the foramina, which I named "the mesial foramina of the maxilla," that they might possibly have had "a function supplementary to the function of the true narial opening." This does not necessarily imply that they were nostrils opening from the nasal cavity into the outer air. Whether they were nares, or were covered by tegument in life, I did not venture to say. It is quite conceivable that the large opening which Professor Marsh has interpreted as the true narial opening may have been covered by tegument and that one or the other of the smaller pairs of anterior openings may have been the true functional nares, as was long ago suggested, if I remember correctly, by the late Dr. Baur. In attempting to make me to have suggested that *Diplodocus* had three pairs of functional nares Dr. Hay is traveling quite beyond my text, and this "fanciful proposition," as he is pleased to call it, is the creature of his own imagination. I object to have him thus misinterpret me.

Dr. Hay devotes a paragraph to a foot-note on page 245 which he does not quote, but which he garbles. This foot-note is as follows: "*Sphenodon* has no external ear, agree-

ing in this respect with many other recent reptilia and ophidia. It is possible that *Diplodocus* had no external ear." I might have omitted the word "many," and have written the word "probable" instead of the word "possible," but then I do not claim omniscience. Omniscience is not one of my fads; and besides I know, as Dr. Hay should also know, that we have in some of the batrachia and lacertilia folds of skin partially covering the tympanum, suggesting and apparently to a certain extent functioning as rudimentary outer ears, and that in the crocodilia there is provided an opercular flap, which distinctly functions as an outer ear. I think my temperate statement may stand as I left it. It does not imply, as Dr. Hay tries to twist it into implying, that I held the ridiculous opinion that there exist reptilia with outer ears fully developed, as for instance, in the mammalia. Dr. Hay in his article is evidently making an attempt to be "funny." He ought first to be sure that he understands what he is talking about.

W. J. HOLLAND

CARNEGIE MUSEUM,  
PITTSBURG, PA.,  
October 20, 1908

ON THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF MR. CHARLES D.  
SNYDER

IN a recent paper<sup>1</sup> Charles D. Snyder has published the following statement:

If we believe that any given physiological activity is due to some particular physical change, we need only to determine at which velocities the action proceeds under various temperatures and then compare these results with the velocities of (probable) physical processes under similar changes of temperature in order to test for ourselves the correctness of our view.

He here refers to a foot-note which reads as follows:

See the author's original communication, *Archiv für Anatomie und Physiologie, Physiol. Abh.*, 1907, p. 113. In this paper the idea of comparing temperature coefficients for possible physical causes underlying physiological actions, as outlined above, was clearly expressed. It was

<sup>1</sup>Snyder, Chas. D., *Am. Jour. Physiol.*, Vol. 22, No. 3, p. 309, August, 1908.