

tioned, for at least half the distance down, a cloth which prevents the accumulation of dust within the glass tubing. The value of glass for blowing purposes is frequently destroyed by minute particles of dust which accumulate inside the tubes.

In each stock room there should be a large chemical sink, either of alberene or porcelain, preferably the latter, provided with a flush rim. This sink is equipped with cold, hot, and distilled water. Above the sink, peg boards should be placed for the draining of glassware. It is desirable to provide non-spattering nozzles for the cocks over these large sinks.

As alcohol is bought in quantity and without the internal revenue tax, it is necessary to keep careful control over it. We have accomplished this in a most satisfactory manner by securing one of the copper tanks made by the Bramhall, Deane Company. The tank is so constructed, that alcohol is readily pumped into it from the regular containers in which it is shipped. It is provided with a safety valve to prevent excessive pressure being created in case of its being accidentally heated. It is also provided with a glass gauge the entire height, so that the contents may be judged. The cock by which the alcohol is drawn off is made with a lock.

It will be observed from the above that the teaching of one kind of chemistry is localized, and, as one progressively descends, the work of the student becomes more and more specialized along lines of preparatory study which he is to pursue subsequently at a professional school.

CHARLES BASKERVILLE

COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

THE AMERICAN BISON SOCIETY

THE president of the society, Dr. William T. Hornaday, has written a letter asking co-operation with the society, in the effort it is now making to complete a fund of \$10,000

with which to purchase and establish the Montana National Bison Herd, on the range that has been provided by congress. The ultimate object of this movement is to perpetuate the Bison species and leave it for future generations of Americans. It is hoped that there may be at Ravalli, Montana, in the not far-distant future, a herd of a thousand pure-bred bison, owned by the national government, and self-sustaining, on a fenced range.

At its last session, congress appropriated \$40,000 with which to buy from the Flathead Indians twenty square miles of choice grazing grounds, erect a fence around it and dedicate it to use as a national bison range. The society pledged itself to provide the nucleus herd, and present it to the government, as soon as the range is ready. Ten thousand dollars must be obtained with which to discharge this obligation. Up to date subscriptions amounting to \$3,102 have been received, and subscriptions to complete the amount required should be sent without delay to Dr. Hornaday, at the Zoological Park, New York City.

THE COMMITTEE OF ONE HUNDRED OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON NATIONAL HEALTH

THE president of the committee, Professor Irving Fisher, states that President Roosevelt has definitely taken up the program of the committee as part of his administration policy. He intends to incorporate the recommendation in his next message to congress—that the health bureaus of the government be concentrated into a common department, from which the bureaus not consistent with health and education will be removed elsewhere. This will be the first and most important step toward a powerful department whose special interest will be health and education.

The president authorized the announcement of this decision at the recent conference in Washington between the Committee of One Hundred, the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the Conference of State and Provincial Boards of Health, the National Child Labor Committee, the Government Commission on the Organization of Scientific Work, the Public Health and

Marine Hospital Service, the Department of Health of the District of Columbia, the Division of Vital Statistics of the Bureau of the Census and the Surgeon General of the Army, representatives of all of which were present, the only absentees being the Surgeon General of the Navy, the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Bureau of Pure Foods, the representative of which, Dr. Wiley, was detained by a railroad accident. There were eighteen persons present. The conference passed a resolution heartily endorsing the president's action.

Similar resolutions endorsing the work of the Committee of One Hundred were passed on the day previous by the State and Provincial Boards of Health. Later, in Section 6 of the International Tuberculosis Congress, Surgeon General Walter Wyman, of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, who was chairman of that section, announced that he was in favor of the president's policy and would cordially cooperate in the endeavor to bring the transfers about.

There is at present no known opposition which should interfere with the passage this fall of legislation to make the necessary transfers. A large number of congressmen have signified their favorable attitude. It is believed that the legislation can be secured provided congressmen are convinced that the leaders in education and in hygiene are earnestly in favor of it.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE National Academy of Sciences will hold its autumn session at the Johns Hopkins University, beginning on Tuesday, November 17. On the evening of November 18 there will be a meeting of the committee on policy of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

THE Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, F.R.S., has been nominated to deliver the Romanes lecture at Oxford University next year. The lecture will, it is reported in the press, be given by President Roosevelt in 1910.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has elected M. Philippe van Tieghem, the distinguished

botanist, as permanent secretary, to succeed the late M. Becquerel.

SIR WILLIAM TURNER, K.C.B., F.R.S., has been elected president of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

THE following are the officers recommended by the president and council of the Royal Society for election for the year 1908-9: *President*—Sir Archibald Geikie, K.C.B., D.C.L., Sc.D., LL.D. *Treasurer*—Alfred Bray Kempe, M.A., D.C.L. *Secretaries*—Professor Joseph Larmor, D.Sc., D.C.L., LL.D., and Professor John Rose Bradford, M.D., D.Sc. *Foreign Secretary*—Sir William Crookes, D.Sc. *Other Members of Council*—Sir George Howard Darwin, K.C.B.; Professor James Cossar Ewart, M.D.; Sir David Gill, K.C.B.; John Scott Haldane, M.D.; Charles Thomas Heycock, M.A.; Professor Horace Lamb, D.Sc.; Professor Hector Munro Macdonald, M.A.; Frederick Walker Mott, M.D.; the Hon. Charles Algernon Parsons, C.B.; Professor William Henry Perkin, Ph.D.; Professor Edward Bagnall Poulton, D.Sc.; Lieutenant-Colonel David Prain, C.I.E.; Sir Arthur William Rücker, D.Sc.; the Right Hon. Sir James Stirling, LL.D.; Professor Frederick Thomas Trouton, Sc.D., and William Whitaker, B.A.

DR. FELIX ADLER, professor of political ethics at Columbia University, and Dr. W. M. Davis, professor of geology at Harvard University, made their inaugural addresses in the grand hall of the University of Berlin, on November 3.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM Z. RIPLEY, of the department of economics of Harvard University, has left Cambridge for London, where he will deliver on November 13 the annual Huxley lecture before the Royal Anthropological Institute. His subject is "The European Inhabitants of the United States."

THE Anthropological Society of Stockholm has elected Dr. Sven Hedin to honorary membership in the society, and has conferred on him a Wahlberg gold medal.

THE Royal Scottish Geographical Society will confer its gold medal upon Lord Avebury.