

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.

DR. B. R. RICKARDS, director of the bacteriological laboratory of the health department of the city of Boston, has resigned to take charge of the laboratory of the State Board of Health at Columbus, O.

MR. J. C. TEMPLE has resigned the position of assistant in soil bacteriology in the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station and College to accept a position as soil bacteriologist in the Georgia Experiment Station.

DR. A. J. EVANS, F.R.S., will resign the keepership of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, at the end of this year.

THE American Philosophical Society has appointed Dr. Henry F. Osborn, of New York, as its representative at the commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth, and the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of the "Origin of Species," to be held at Cambridge, under the auspices of the university, on June 22-24, 1909. It has appointed Dr. William Trelease, of St. Louis, to represent it at the inauguration of Albert Ross Hill, LL.D., as president of the University of Missouri, on December 10 and 11, 1908.

DR. ADOLPH HEMPEL, '95, Illinois, plant pathologist and entomologist and professor in the Agricultural College at Sao Paulo, Brazil, will represent the University of Illinois at the first Pan-American scientific congress to be held at Santiago, Chili, commencing December 25.

PROFESSOR CHARLES D. MARX, of the department of civil engineering of Leland Stanford Junior University, has been engaged by the supervisors of San Francisco to report on the Hetch-Hetchy water project, now under consideration by the city.

PROFESSOR R. J. H. DELOACH, professor of cotton industry in the State College of Agriculture at Athens, Ga., has been made a member of the committee on Cotton Breeding of the American Breeders' Association.

PROFESSOR BESSEY, of the University of Nebraska, delivered the annual "college day" address on the twenty-first of October at the Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, this being the fortieth anniversary of the opening of the

college. The subject of the address, which is soon to be published in *The Alumnus*, was "Laying the Foundations."

THE second lecture of the Harvey Society course, delivered by Dr. William G. MacCallum, of Johns Hopkins University, at the New York Academy of Medicine, on November 7, was on the subject of "Fever."

W. FALTA, M.D., docent of internal medicine in the University of Vienna, gave a lecture on "The Relations between Diseases that are caused by Disturbances of Internal Secretions," at the Harvard Medical School, on November 3.

DR. ALEXIS CARREL, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, read a paper on "Recent Studies in Transplantation of Organs in Animals," at the meeting of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, on November 6.

RAEMER REX RENSHAW, instructor in chemistry in Wesleyan University, gave an illustrated lecture on "Industrial Alcohol," before the Middletown Scientific Association on November 10.

A MEMORIAL service at the University of Kansas in honor of the late Dr. Francis Huntington Snow, chancellor of the university from 1889 to 1901, and professor in the department of natural science since 1866, was held on November 10. Mr. James Willis Gleed delivered an address on behalf of the alumni, and Dean Green for the faculty. Dr. S. W. Williston, of the University of Chicago, who for many years was a collaborer with Dr. Snow in the work of building up the entomological and paleontological departments of the university to their present high standards, gave an account of Dr. Snow's work for the advancement of science. Col. H. L. Moore, of Lawrence, spoke for the citizens of the town on "Dr. Snow as a Private Citizen."

AT the meeting commemorative of Dr. Daniel C. Gilman, late president of Johns Hopkins University, held last Sunday afternoon in McCoy Hall, addresses were delivered by President Remsen, Professors Gildersleeve

and Welch, and the Hon. Charles J. Bonaparte, United States attorney-general.

DR. ALTHOFF, who a year ago retired from the directorship of the ministry in charge of the Prussian universities, and eminent for his services to higher education, has died at the age of sixty-nine years.

THE deaths are also announced of Professor Paul Henning, curator of the Royal Botanical Museum, at Berlin; of Dr. Cuthbert Collingwood, at the age of eighty-two, the author of "Rambles of a Naturalist in the China Seas," and of various scientific papers; of M. Gustave Canet, past president of the Institution of Civil Engineers, of France, and one of the founders of the French Association for the Advancement of Science; and of Mr. Henry Chapman, known for his work on the development of the application of machine tools actuated by hydraulic power, the perfecting of torpedo machinery, and with air compressors.

THE Swedish Medical Society of Stockholm celebrated the hundredth anniversary of its foundation on October 25.

At the Baltimore meeting of the American Nature Study Society, December 29-31, there will be a session devoted to the relation of nature study and agriculture in elementary and ungraded rural schools, and another on relation of nature study to high-school science. Teachers and others who have suggestions to contribute are invited to send statements of their views and experience to the secretary of the society, Professor M. A. Bigelow, Teachers College, New York City.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM JAMES is now giving at Harvard University the course of eight lectures that he gave last spring at Oxford University on the Hibbert lectureship. The title of the lectures is "The General Situation in Philosophy," and the subjects of the several lectures are as follows:

November 6—The Types of Philosophic Thinking.

November 9—Monistic Idealism.

November 13—On Hegel.

November 16—On Fechner.

November 20—The Compounding of Consciousness.

November 23—Bergson's Critique of Intellectualism.

November 27—The Continuity of Experiences.

November 30—A Pluralistic Universe.

JESUP lectures will be delivered, under the auspices of Columbia University, at the American Museum of Natural History, on Wednesday evenings at eight o'clock, by Professor Richard C. Maclaurin, professor of mathematical physics. Professor Maclaurin's general subject will be "Light." The lectures, ten in number, will begin November 18.

HEWITT lectures, which are similarly conducted by the university at Cooper Union, will be given by Dr. William J. Gies on Monday evenings, beginning February 8. Dr. Gies, who is professor of biological chemistry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, is arranging a series of experimental demonstrations to accompany his eight lectures, the subject of which will be "The Chemistry of Nutrition."

THE Shaler memorial expedition to Brazil, by whose provisions Professor Woodworth and several other members of the Harvard department of geology are now working in South America, has been the subject of a conference in the lecture room of the mineralogical museum. Professor R. DeCourtney Ward, who spent part of his summer in the country with Professor Woodworth, spoke of the weather and climate of Brazil, and Mr. Winthrop P. Haynes described the geology of eastern Brazil.

ACCORDING to foreign exchanges Professor Ehlers, of Copenhagen, well known as an authority on leprosy, is now in Paris with the view of organizing a scientific expedition to the Danish West Indies, which comprise the islands of St. Thomas, St. John and Santa Cruz. The object of the expedition is said to be to endeavor to determine the part played by blood-sucking insects, especially fleas and bugs, in the dissemination of leprosy. If the negotiations for the purpose come to a practical issue the expedition will consist of an equal number of Danish and French workers.

THE German Meteorological Society offers a prize of 3,000 Marks for the best treatment of meteorological observations obtained in the international ascents. The paper must be

presented anonymously in German, English or French, not later than the end of 1911, to the secretary of the society, Professor G. Hellmann, Berlin W., 56. Shinkelplatz 6.

THE exhibit on the ground floor of the American Museum of Natural History illustrating the solar system has been altered so as to be more comprehensive and instructive. The sun is now represented by an illuminated globe three inches in diameter, which brings the orbit of the earth just within the foyer. The foyer, therefore, now contains the whole of the orbits of Mercury, Venus and the earth and part of that of Mars, while the adjoining exhibition halls contain the remainder of the orbits of Mars and parts of those of Jupiter and Saturn. The orbits are represented by circles of wire on which the days and months are indicated and along which the planets, shown as lights of proper size, are moved from day to day in correct position.

THE production of quicksilver in the United States in 1907, as shown by confidential returns to the United States Geological Survey from every producing mine in the country, amounted to 21,567 flasks of 75 pounds each, and was valued at \$828,931, the figures showing a decrease, when compared with those for 1906, of 4,671 flasks in quantity and of \$129,703 in value. A detailed report on the industry, prepared by H. D. McCaskey, geologist of the survey, has been published in an advance chapter from "Mineral Resources of the United States, Calendar Year 1907." An output of quicksilver was reported from but three states in 1907—California, Texas and Utah—and the single producer in Utah reported no production for the last seven months of the year. A small amount was reported from Oregon in 1906, but none at all in 1907. In California, which furnishes about 80 per cent. of the domestic production, the industry was not in a very flourishing condition during the year. The returns from the state show a decrease of 2,879 flasks in quantity and of \$68,264 in value from the production of 1906—an output of 17,431 flasks, valued at \$662,544, having been reported in the later year as compared with 20,310 flasks,

valued at \$730,808, in the earlier. The decrease in the hydraulic mining of gold, formerly so important an industry in California, the decreased amount of gold and silver recovered by amalgamation process alone, and the increased tendency to ship ores of the precious metals to smelters have all tended to reduce the local demand for quicksilver. Statistics of world production of quicksilver for 1907 are not yet available, but a comparison of the figures for quantities produced in foreign countries in 1906 with those for the United States in that year shows that this country ranked second among the quicksilver producers in that year, Spain having first place. Austria held third place, Italy fourth and Russia fifth. Practically all of the quicksilver product of Spain comes from the famous old mines of Almaden, where about 4,000 men are employed. It is probable that these mines alone contain sufficient reserve ore to enable them to dominate the world's market.

IN May, 1906, Dr. Sheffield Neave was asked by the Tanganyika Concessions, Limited, on behalf of that company, of the Union Minière, and of the Benguella Railway Company, to ascertain, in respect of the mining area of Katanga, the distribution of the various species of tsetse and other biting flies, to study the distribution of sleeping sickness should it be found to exist, and to investigate the blood of the population in any infected area, to make research generally in respect of the disease in the concession and its neighborhood, and to report and advise as to what measures should be taken in respect thereto. The author has now narrated his experiences in a paper entitled Portions of Report on Work of Katanga Medical Commission, 1906, 1907, 1908. An abstract in *The British Medical Journal* states that a considerable portion of the time was spent ascertaining the distribution of *Glossina palpalis*, but other research work, when time permitted, was carried out. Dr. Neave found that the most typical form of enlarged glands containing trypanosomes was that which included the following qualities: (1) A symmetrical enlargement on both sides; (2) chain formation as opposed to single

glands; (3) a resilient sensation given on palpation somewhat resembling an elastic distended airball; (4) size, about that of a hazel nut, a gland giving the idea of being something a little less than half an inch when taken up in the ordinary way between thumb and finger under the skin. In 1,327 palpations the percentage of enlarged glands from endemically-infected districts was found to be 62.4 per cent., as compared with 3,972 palpations, with a percentage of 39.2, where the disease did not exist. This latter figure clearly shows that enlarged glands must not always be considered proof of sleeping sickness. The letter from Mr. Williams to Dr. Neave indicates that the disease is not so severe and widespread in Katanga as was at first thought.

THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT ELIOT

At a meeting of the president and fellows of Harvard College, on October 26, President Eliot presented the following letter:

TO THE PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE:

Gentlemen: I hereby resign the office of president of Harvard University, the resignation to take effect at your convenience, but not later than May 19th, 1909.

The president's intimate association with the other members of the corporation in common service to the university is one of the most precious privileges of his highly privileged office. For this association with the fifteen friends who are dead, and the seven who are living, I shall always be profoundly grateful.

Congratulating you on your labors and satisfactions in the past, and on the sure prospect of greater labors and satisfactions to come, I am, with high respect,

Your friend and servant,

CHARLES W. ELIOT

10 October, 1908

Whereupon it was

Voted, That the president's resignation be regretfully accepted, to take effect May 19, 1909.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE Iowa State College is just completing a new hall of agriculture of white stone construction, over two hundred feet in length, at a cost of approximately three hundred thousand dollars.

THE cornerstone of the new agricultural hall of the University of Missouri was laid recently. The building will cost \$100,000. Among the speakers were B. H. Bonfoeyn, of Unionville, Mo., a curator of the university; Norman J. Colman, commissioner of agriculture under President Cleveland; Dr. B. T. Galloway, an alumnus, now chief of the division of vegetable pathology of the Department of Agriculture; Dr. A. Ross Hill, president of the university; Dr. R. H. Jesse, late president, and Henry J. Waters, dean of the college of agriculture.

THE University of Kansas has completed the equipment of a special laboratory for water analysis in connection with the state water survey. Special problems of public water supply, sewage and industrial waste will be taken up this winter. The work for the U. S. Geological Survey in analyzing the waters of rivers and streams in the state has been completed.

WITH the organization of the department of mining engineering in charge of Professor E. C. Holden, a graduate of the Columbia School of Mines and a practical mining engineer, the college of engineering of the University of Wisconsin is giving this fall for the first time a complete course in the practical details of mining. During the first semester the students are given work in excavation, explosives, blasting and tunneling, which will be followed by other courses in boring and shaft sinking. In the second semester the subjects of prospecting, the development and the exploitation of mines will be studied, and the students from the senior class will be given additional courses in the design of haulage, hoisting, pumping and ventilating systems for mining plants. Plans are now being made for the further equipment of the department with machines and apparatus for demonstration and laboratory work. The main portion of the equipment will be centered in an ore dressing laboratory, which will probably occupy the building formerly occupied by the university heating plant. Some small additions of machinery have already been secured, and it is expected