

In 1907 there was an excess of births in only 29 departments, as compared with 42 in 1906 and 43 in 1905, the departments showing this excess most markedly being: Pas-de-Calais, 103 per 10,000 inhabitants; Finistère, 89; Nord, 57; Morbihan, 51; Territorie de Belfort, 49; Haute-Vienne, 44; Seine-Inferieure, 37; Vosges, 36; Meurthe-et-Moselle, 35; Lozère, 34; Vendée, 33; Doubs, 26; Côtes du Nord and Corsica, 23. It will thus be seen that the regions which show an excess of births are the North, Brittany, the Eastern frontiers, Limousin, and Corsica, the departments inhabited by the Celtic, Flemish, and Basque races. In the basins of the Garonne and the Rhone each year the proportion of deaths over births increases, and thus Gascony and Provence are rapidly losing their characteristic population.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANIMAL NUTRITION

In connection with the International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, there was held on November 28, 1908, a meeting of those college and experiment station workers more especially interested in investigation in stock feeding. About thirty were present, representing experiment stations from Massachusetts to California and from Minnesota to Alabama. The meeting grew out of a conference of investigators in this subject, held at Cornell University last summer during the graduate summer school of agriculture, and resulted in the formation of The American Society of Animal Nutrition.

The objects of the society, as stated in the constitution which was adopted, are "To improve the quality of investigation in animal nutrition, to promote more systematic and better correlated study of feeding problems, and to facilitate personal intercourse between investigators in this field." In addition to holding an annual meeting, the society proposes to take up actively the consideration of methods of investigation and later to enter upon cooperative study of important problems of stock feeding. To this end, a standing committee on experiments and two special committees on methods were provided for and

the committee appointed at the Cornell conference presented a full report outlining the work to be undertaken.

The officers of the new society are: *President*, H. P. Armsby, of Pennsylvania; *Vice-president*, C. F. Curtiss, of Iowa; *Secretary-treasurer*, D. H. Otis, of Wisconsin; *Registrar*, J. T. Willard, of Kansas. *Committee on Experiments*: H. J. Waters, of Missouri; H. W. Mumford, of Illinois; T. L. Haecker, of Minnesota; E. B. Forbes, of Ohio; W. H. Jordan, of New York.

SYMPOSIUM ON CORRELATION

SECTION E, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE program for a Symposium on the Principles and Criteria of Correlation is now completed, the following scientists having stated their readiness to discuss the several subjects opposite their names. The symposium will begin on Monday, December 28, under the auspices of Section E, and be carried as far as the time at the disposal of that section on Monday permits. On Tuesday and the following days, until completed, it will form a part of the program of the Geological Society of America, under a special subsection on correlation. The presentation and discussion of papers will be conducted strictly according to a definite time schedule, which will be stated in the program of the meeting.

C. R. Van Hise or C. K. Leith: "Principles of pre-Cambrian Correlation."

F. D. Adams: "The Basis of pre-Cambrian Correlation."

C. D. Walcott: "Evolution of Early Paleozoic Faunas in Relation to their Environment."

A. W. Grabau: "Physical and Faunal Evolution of North America in the Late Ordovician, Silurian and Early Devonian Time."

Stuart Weller: "Correlation of Middle and Upper Devonian and Mississippian Faunas of North America."

G. H. Girty: "Physical and Faunal Changes of Pennsylvanian and Permian in North America."

David White: "The Upper Paleozoic Floras, their Succession and Range."

S. W. Williston: "Environmental Relations of the Early Vertebrates."