

President William Oxley Thompson had consented to act as honorary chairman, but later found it impossible to be present, and Miss Freda Detmers, president of the club, presided. The program was intended to cover the various phases of Darwin's life work as the following list of subjects will indicate: "Darwin's Character and Method of Work," Professor F. L. Landacre; "The Influence of Darwin's Work in Geology," Professor G. D. Hubbard; "Darwin's Contributions to Zoological Science," Professor Herbert Osborn; "Darwin in His Relationship to British Stockmen," Professor C. S. Plumb; "Darwin's Contributions to Horticultural Science," Professor V. H. Davis; "The Work of Darwin in Physiological Botany," Professor A. Dachnowski; "Darwin's Contributions to Botany," Professor J. H. Schaffner; "Darwin and Modern Philosophy," Professor A. E. Davies; "Darwin and Modern Psychology," Professor D. R. Major.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE appropriations committee of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives has reported a bill recommending an appropriation of \$700,000 to the University of Pennsylvania.

It is said that Dalhousie University is likely to be removed from Halifax, N. S., to the city of Dartmouth on the opposite side of the harbor. This city has offered a free site and about \$100,000 for buildings.

THE governor of Colorado has signed a bill permitting the state university to conduct the last two years of its medical course in the city of Denver.

THERE has been introduced in the New York assembly a bill which provides that five members of the board of trustees of Cornell University shall be appointed by the governor, his appointments to be subject to the approval of the senate.

A ROYAL commission has been appointed to consider the position and organization of university education in London.

THE inauguration of Dr. Richard C. MacLaurin as president of the Massachusetts In-

stitute of Technology will take place on Monday, June 7, at Symphony Hall. A committee of the corporation, faculty and alumni has been appointed to take charge of the ceremony.

MR. R. H. WHITBECK, of the New Jersey State Normal School, Trenton, N. J., has been appointed assistant professor of geology at the University of Wisconsin. He will give courses especially intended for the preparation of teachers, dealing primarily with applied geography and with materials available for secondary school teaching and methods of presenting physical geography, geography and geology.

DR. EDMUND LANDAU, docent at Berlin, has been appointed professor of mathematics at Göttingen.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

CITY BOYS VERSUS COUNTRY BOYS

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In your issue of February 12 Mr. W. J. Spillman, under the title "Education and the Trades," makes, with regard to the birthplaces of leading Americans, the following surprising statement:

I believe there are some things which have higher pedagogic value than anything taught in our schools to-day, else why is it that with only 29 per cent. of our population actually living on the farm, with miserably poor school facilities as compared with our city population, this 29 per cent. furnishes about 70 per cent. of the leaders in every phase of activity in this country?

I say surprising, because any one who is familiar with modern investigations in the inheritance of mental qualities in man, must see that such a supposition, if it were indeed a fact, would seriously clash with the conclusions drawn from a number of researches otherwise harmonious and mutually supporting.

This point I will discuss later, but now let us test the facts. Does the farm produce more than its share of leading Americans? Such a question must be answered on a statistical, impartial, and as far as possible, scientific basis. It is first necessary to determine who are the "leaders in every phase of activity in this country." I have turned to "Who's