

November 24, 1909.

DEAR MR. SANGER:—

I hope most earnestly that you will be successful in your efforts to raise money for a new chemical laboratory. That Boylston Hall has been inadequate for purposes both of research and instruction has long been lamentably evident, and that Harvard University should not be properly equipped in this field is the more to be regretted, in view of the rapidly increasing importance of chemistry in industry and medicine. It is well known that the industries of America are behind those of Germany in the use of chemical processes, and better chemical facilities at our universities would help greatly towards curing this defect. It seems unfortunate that the magnificent research in chemistry being conducted at Harvard should be hampered by the lack of laboratory room. Yours very truly,

A. LAWRENCE LOWELL

Professor C. R. Sanger.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

IN the present issue of *SCIENCE* are printed the address of the retiring president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. T. C. Chamberlin, of the University of Chicago, and of the vice-president of the section for mathematics and astronomy, Professor C. J. Keyser, of Columbia University. In the issue for next week will be printed the proceedings of the Boston meeting, which promises to be of more than usual interest and importance.

THE Chicago Geographical Society has awarded the Helen Culver gold medal to Commander Robert E. Peary, for distinguished services in exploration, and to Professor Thomas C. Chamberlin, of the University of Chicago, for distinguished services in geographical research. The medals will be presented at the annual dinner of the society on January 26.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has awarded medals for aeronautic achievements as follows: gold—Wilbur and Orville Wright, Blériot, Farman, Count de Lambert, Santos-Dumont, De La Vaux, Voisin and Count Zeppelin; enamel—Bremuet, Paulhan, Delagrange, Rougier and Esnault Pelterie.

As has been everywhere announced, the University of Copenhagen has reported adversely on the claims of Dr. Frederick A. Cook to have reached the North Pole. This report will not now come as a surprise to any one nor had a different result been anticipated at any time by those conversant with the circumstances, as is indicated by the note published in this journal, on September 10, when the announcement was first made.

DR. THEO. GILL, of the Smithsonian Institution, and Professor August Brauer, director of the Zoological Museum, Berlin, have been elected foreign members of the Zoological Society of London. The following corresponding members were elected: Mr. E. Salis-Schwabe, of Manaos, Brazil; Professor W. Kukenthal, of Breslau, Germany; Professor Gustave Gilson, of Ostend, Belgium, and Dr. E. G. Racovitza, sub-director of the Laboratoire Arago, Banyuls-sur-Mer, France.

DR. EPHRAIM MILLER, professor of mathematics and astronomy in the University of Kansas, who will celebrate his seventy-seventh birthday on April 25, will retire from active service at the close of the academic year under the provisions of the Carnegie Foundation.

PROFESSOR J. CULVER HARTZELL, B.S. (Chattanooga), M.S. (Yale), Ph.D. (Munich), has resigned as head of the department of geology and chemistry in the University of the Pacific, the resignation to take effect at the close of the present academic year.

DR. E. B. TYLOR, professor of anthropology at Oxford University, will retire from active service.

DR. LEO LOEB, assistant professor of pathology at the University of Pennsylvania, will at the close of the present academic year become director of an institution for the study of cancer in St. Louis.

DR. SHEPHERD IVORY FRANZ, psychologist at the Government Hospital for the Insane, Washington, D. C., has been appointed scientific director of that institution.

MR. W. M. TATTERSALL has been appointed keeper of the Manchester Museum in succession to Dr. W. E. Hoyle.

DR. G. GÜRICH, docent for geology at Breslau, has been appointed director of the Geological Institute at Hamburg, to succeed the late Professor Gottsche.

PROFESSOR A. CRUM BROWN, F.R.S., has been elected president of the Scottish Meteorological Society.

WE learn from the London *Times* that Professor Kocher, of Berne, who was recently awarded the Nobel prize for medicine, has announced his intention of dividing the prize into two amounts, one of which he will present to the Red Cross Hospital at Berne. The remaining sum will be used for the benefit of the poorer class of medical students at Berne.

THE prize of the Berlin Astronomical Society for the best calculations of the path of Halley's comet has been awarded to Messrs. Cole and Crommelin.

DURING the past two years Mr. John D. Haseman has been collecting fishes for the Carnegie Museum in South America. His last journey was from Corumba in the valley of the La Plata to Manaus in Brazil. No message having been received from him for seven months, fears for his safety began to be entertained, but they were relieved a few days ago by a message from Manaus, saying "I have come out to civilization, tired and worn out, but still able to catch fish." He has added many thousands of specimens to the collections of the museum.

THE board of regents of the University of Minnesota has allowed Professor F. L. Washburn, of the entomological division of the experiment station, two months' vacation, during February and March of the present year. This time will be spent, as far as possible, in the study of conditions governing the control of insects affecting market gardens and small land ownings in Europe.

DR. ROBERT BENNETT BEAN, associate professor of anatomy in the Philippine Medical School, will return to America, reaching Baltimore in February.

PROFESSOR HAL DOWNEY, of the department of animal biology of the University of Minnesota, will next year have sabbatical leave of absence to study abroad.

FROM the members of the American committee appointed by Commissioner Brown for the third International Congress for Home Education to be held in Brussels next summer, the name was omitted of Dr. D. P. McMillin, director of child study and pedagogical investigation in the Chicago public schools. He is chairman of the sub-committee on child study.

DR. AUGUSTO RIGHI, professor of physics at Bologna, will next year give a course of lectures at Columbia University.

MR. MARCONI, who received a Nobel prize for physics, lectured in Stockholm on December 11, in accordance with the usual custom, upon radiotelegraphy, before a large body of well-known men of science.

ACCORDING to *Nature*, on November 24, exactly fifty years after the publication of the "Origin of Species," a number of biological and medical societies of the Netherlands met in one of the large halls of the Amsterdam Zoological Gardens (*Natura Artis Magistra*) to commemorate this event and the influence which Darwinism has continued to exercise on human thought since then. Addresses were delivered by Professor Hugo de Vries on Darwin's visit to the Galapagos Archipelago, and by Professor A. A. W. Hubrecht on Darwin and the descent of man. A bust of Darwin occupied the center of the hall in front of the platform.

THE Pasteur Institute of Paris has presented to the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, of New York, a replica of the bronze bust of Louis Pasteur by Paul Dubois, in recognition of assistance rendered during the recent epidemic of cerebrospinal meningitis which prevailed in France.

A MONUMENT will be erected in Hilden, Germany, to Guilelmus Fabricius, the eminent surgeon. It is proposed to unveil a statue of Fabricius on the three hundred and fiftieth anniversary of his birth, June 25, 1560.

WE are requested by Frau Marie Dohrn to state that in looking through the late Professor Anton Dohrn's papers and manuscripts, much has been found relating to the origin

and growth of the Naples Zoological Station that he founded. Whether from these materials it will be possible to reconstruct a complete history of the station, can not as yet be definitely said; but at all events the many letters that Dohrn wrote to his scientific friends could not fail to fill up many gaps and throw more light on the whole subject. All those, accordingly, who have in their possession any letters from Dohrn, and are willing to give a helping hand in this undertaking, would be doing a great service if they would lend these letters, or copies of them, for the purposes of the work. All communications should be addressed to Frau Marie Dohrn, Rione Amedeo, 92, Naples.

DR. CHARLES B. DUDLEY, chief chemist of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, past president of the American Chemical Society, died at his home in Altoona, Pa., on December 21 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. LUDWIG MOND, the distinguished industrial chemist and investigator, a founder of the alkali firm of Brunner, Mond and Co., died in London on December 11, at the age of seventy years.

THE U. S. Civil Service Commission will hold an examination on January 12 for the appointment in the Bureau of Standards of an engineer-physicist at \$3,000 per year and associate engineer-physicist at \$2,000 per year. Applicants should be able to carry on independent research in the field of engineering physics, and should have training and experience in the inspection and testing of engineering and structural materials, the operation of testing machines and the interpretation of the results of investigations. Titles and references to the original source of publication of all papers published should be given.

ACCORDING to the *London Times*, it is planned to establish in Germany a Chemische Reichsanstalt to undertake for chemical industry similar functions to those which the Imperial Physical Institute performs for engineering. The undertaking is being subsidized by the state, and it is expected that the annual maintenance will cost about £10,000.

A CONFERENCE on the eradication of the hookworm disease will be held in Atlanta, on January 18 and 19. Delegates will be appointed to the conference from Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

THE second general meeting of the International Institute of Agriculture was held at Rome beginning on December 12.

THE annual exhibition of physical apparatus organized by the London Physical Society was held on December 14 at the Imperial College of Science, South Kensington.

THE annual meeting of the Association of American Universities will be held at the University of Wisconsin on January 4-5. Among the subjects to be discussed at this meeting are "The Problem of the Assistant Professor," to be discussed by a representative of Leland Stanford University; "University Extension," to be presented by Director L. E. Reber, of the extension division of the University of Wisconsin; and "The Position and Importance of the Arts Course as Distinct from the Professional Course," to be read by President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

AT a meeting of the senate of the University of London on December 16, a letter was read from Mr. Otto Beit, announcing a large gift in the interest of medical research. Mr. Beit's brother, the late Mr. Alfred Beit, left £50,000 to found an "Institute of Medical Sciences." As the formation of this institute has for various reasons become impossible, Mr. Beit has decided to increase the sum left by his brother to £215,000. This fund, which is to be named "The Beit Memorial Fellowships for Medical Research," is to be devoted to the furthering of medical research work in all its branches. With this object a sum of £250 a year for three years is to be granted "to any man or woman of European descent, graduate of any approved university within the British Empire, who is elected to a Fellowship." The first election of fellows will take place on or before March 1, 1910.