

not associated with skins, these being picked up in the field for the study of the variations in individual specimens. Word has recently been received of the killing by Mr. Roosevelt of two specimens of the white rhinoceros, an adult female and calf. These will be of particular value to the museum which has no representative of this species in its collection.

CONSUL-GENERAL RICHARD GUENTHER, of Frankfort, writes that the Kosmos Association of Naturalists in Stuttgart, the Duerer League and the Austrian Imperial Association for Ornithology in Vienna have united in an address to the public calling for subscriptions to create a Natural Protective Park. This address was published last spring and since then has been followed up by a convention in Munich well attended by naturalists and scientific men from all parts of Germany. An organization was effected, called the Verein Naturschutzpark, with headquarters in Stuttgart. The plan is to create three large parks, one in the Alpine Mountain Range, one in the highlands of central Germany and the third in the low country of the north. The main object is to preserve and increase certain species of animal and plant life. The parks are expected to become centers of attraction and recreation for millions of people, natives and foreign visitors. The fee for membership to this park association will be quite low, to encourage hundreds of thousands to join.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE trustees of Columbia University propose to remove the College of Physicians and Surgeons from its present location on West Fifty-ninth street to a commanding site on Morningside Heights, adjacent to the other schools of the university. A large part of the necessary land has been obtained by the gift of Messrs. William K. Vanderbilt, George J. Gould, Frank A. Munsey and a fourth anonymous contributor.

MR. J. S. HUYLER, of New York, has given \$20,000 to Syracuse University.

THE Commonwealth Edison Company of Chicago and the General Electric Company of Schenectady have jointly presented to the

department of electrical engineering of the University of Illinois a 125-kilowatt steam turbo-generator. The turbine of this unit is to be non-condensing. The generator is to be designed for 3-phase, 60-cycle currents, to be delivered at 2,300 volts. With the addition of this machine the electrical laboratory will be prepared to deal extensively with problems involving single-phase, quarter-phase and three-phase currents.

A MUSEUM of Industrial Chemistry has been established at the University of Illinois under the division of applied chemistry.

THE trustees of Cornell University have voted to meet the congestion in the department of chemistry by an extension of North Morse Hall westward a distance of about 40 feet, and the building committee was instructed to have the enlarged building ready for occupancy in September.

THE statement to the effect that Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst has decided to erect for the University of California a museum of anthropology is incorrect. Mrs. Hearst explicitly denied the report the day after it appeared in the paper which first published the story.

AN anonymous donor has given to the University of Paris an annual income of 30,000 francs to found ten fellowships at foreign universities.

WE learn from the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that the council of the University of Paris and the Pasteur Institute have agreed to construct, at the joint expense of the two institutions, a laboratory for the study of the phenomena of radioactivity and their therapeutic applications. The projected laboratory will comprise two parts: one for scientific researches under the direction of Mme. Curie, the other for medical applications under the direction of the Pasteur Institute. The latter will contribute towards the expenses of construction and equipment of the institution 400,000 francs, from the Osiris legacy.

DR. WILLIAM HUNTINGTON, president of Boston University, proposes to retire at the end of the present academic year.

DR. EDMUND CLARK SANFORD will be installed as president of Clark College on February 1.

A. H. SUTHERLAND, Ph.D. (Chicago), of the Government Hospital for the Insane at Washington, has been appointed instructor in psychology in the University of Illinois.

DR. ISSAI SCHUR has been promoted to an associate professorship of mathematics in the University of Berlin.

DR. KNOLLER has been appointed associate professor of aeronautics in the Vienna School of Technology.

DR. DIETZIUS has qualified as docent for aeronautics in the Berlin School of Technology.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

FALL OF A METEORITE IN NORWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS

DURING the night between October 7 and 8, 1909, a meteoric stone fell to earth on the farm of Mr. W. P. Nickerson, of Norwood, Mass. The meteorite is a ham-shaped mass of very hard gray stony material, much corrugated on the surface, about two and one half feet long in its greatest dimension, one foot to nearly one and one half feet broad, and varying from one foot to one half foot in the third dimension. I estimated its volume as about 1.75 cubic feet, its weight as perhaps 275 pounds, and its density as not much over 2.5. The material has a flow structure, like that of an ancient lava which has solidified during flow, but is completely crystalline. It is, therefore, entirely different from any meteorite on record. The stone is about as hard as petrosilex, and has a slight salty odor. Laminæ from 2 to 4 millimeters thick, perhaps on an average 5 to 10 mm. apart, disposed in a parallel order, project from the surface to the extent of several millimeters, resembling in this respect a much weathered piece of laminated felsite, except that there has been no chemical alteration of the superficial layer such as occurs in felsitic weathering. The laminæ are distinctly parallel, their general direction transverse to the longer axis of the

mass. The projections, although rounded, exhibit a remnant of crystalline form. They are in fact phenocrysts of plagioclase feldspar. Several small cavities, a few millimeters in diameter, are recognizable, but the greater part of the surface is without any pitting, other than that of the normal, and everywhere present, structural corrugation.

The bolide fell vertically through the bars of a gateway, breaking every bar and burying itself in the sand directly underneath to a depth of three feet. It was this fresh break which attracted the attention of one of the farmer's men in the early morning of Friday, October 8. The top of the stone was about six inches below the level of the surface in the interior of a cavity in the ground not much over a foot wide. The top of the stone was still appreciably warm the following morning at 7 A.M., according to Mr. Nickerson, and the bottom was decidedly warm ("hot" is the word used by the man who first felt it). A neighbor, Miss Stuart, of Westwood, in whose candor and honesty I have complete confidence, arrived at the spot just after the stone had been exhumed, handled its surface without gloves, and declares that it was so hot that she did not care to keep her hands on it very long. One of Mr. Nickerson's hired men independently told me the same. The moisture in the surrounding earth had been converted into steam which, in blowing off during its escape, had brushed off, and thus cleansed the *lower* surface of the meteorite—the surface of impact—which was cleaner than the upper surface, a fact which attracted the attention and surprise of the diggers who could not account for it. The sand had been so thoroughly dried that it sifted back into the hole as the stone was pried out, although the surrounding soil of the pasture was damp. The bolide passed through the bars so swiftly that the rather weak side supports were not injured. One hard wood bar was cut with a sharp fracture. Some smaller and weaker ones were more or less torn.

It seems to me probable that when a bolide succeeds in penetrating to the denser layers of the atmosphere at a very low angle, the up-