

and Riverside, California, the following afternoon and about two hours and a half will be given to the semi-tropical scenery of each of these two cities. Sunday, July 10, will be spent at Los Angeles, leaving there in the evening and arriving at Lang, Cal., on the following morning. At Lang the borax mines will be visited on invitation of Mr. S. T. Mather, of the Thorkildsen-Mather Company, where the party will be their guests until about 1:30 o'clock, when the train will leave for Santa Barbara, giving us about five hours in that unequalled seaside resort. During the night the train will leave for San Francisco via the coast route of the Southern Pacific, probably reaching our destination about twelve o'clock on July 12.

The meeting will follow and our entertainment by the California Section. The tentative program for our entertainment includes: first, a steamer trip around the Bay and out through the Golden Gate; second, a trip to the top of Mt. Tamalpais and to the Muir Woods, the first giving us an extensive view of the ocean, the bay and the surrounding mountains and hills, while the second contains fine specimens of the coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*); third, an excursion on the Ocean Shore Railway to Pescadero with a possible return via the Santa Clara Valley; fourth, an excursion to the vineyards and wineries of the Italian-Swiss colonies in Sonoma County; fifth, a visit to the University of California at Berkeley; sixth, a visit to Stanford University with a possible automobile trip through the orchards of the Santa Clara Valley; seventh, a camping out trip for one night and parts of two days into the Big Basin, the State Park, where some of the biggest redwoods are to be seen; also it is hoped to visit some of the local manufacturing plants.

Following the meeting the party will dissolve as a whole, returning as they desire, either via the smelters in Utah and Colorado, via the beautiful scenery of the Canadian Pacific, or via the National Yellowstone Park.

Unusually low rates have been obtained from Chicago; namely, \$62.50 for the round trip from that city with \$15 extra if the party returns via the northern routes. There will

be \$6.50 extra railway fare on the side trip to the Grand Canyon. The berth rate from Chicago to San Francisco will be \$14 with an additional charge for the four extra days in transit in lieu of hotel expenses, as the Pullmans will be used throughout the trip. This additional charge will approximate \$7 on the berth rate.

The Puget Sound Section are hoping that a considerable number of the members may decide to return via Seattle and if a party can be formed they will make every effort to show us their own delightful surroundings.

In view of the efforts that are being made by the California members and of the unusual attractions of the trip, it is hoped that a special effort will be made by eastern members to be present at the meeting. Reservations for the special train will be made in the order of their receipt. Any members of allied societies going west at this time who may wish to share in the privileges of the special train should address the secretary, Charles L. Parsons, New Hampshire College, Durham, N. H.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

BEFORE the Paris Academy of Sciences on March 4, M. Picard made a eulogy on the late Alexander Agassiz. Mr. Agassiz had attended a meeting of the academy two weeks previously.

THE will of Alexander Agassiz, dated September 17, 1906, was filed at Newport, on April 14. He bequeathed \$200,000 to Harvard University, half for the Museum of Comparative Zoology and half for its publications. The university also receives scientific apparatus and books, and will ultimately receive the further sum of \$12,000. Mr. Agassiz further bequeathed \$50,000 to the National Academy of Sciences and an equal sum to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. \$25,000 is left to the Newport School of Manual Training, to which ultimately \$6,000 will be added. Mr. Agassiz's will further provides that in the case of the death of any one of his three sons without issue his share of the estate shall ultimately go to Harvard University for the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

ON the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Charles F. Chandler, head of the Department of Chemistry of Columbia University, a testimonial is to be tendered in his honor under the auspices of the Chemists' Club, the Society of Chemical Industry, the American Chemical Society, the American Electro-Chemical Society, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the Verein Deutscher Chemiker. The form of the testimonial has been arranged as follows: first, a banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria, on Saturday, April 30, at 7 P.M.; second, the presentation of a bronze bust in heroic size, to be executed by Mr. J. Scott Hartley, which bust it is expected will finally be presented to the Chandler Museum of Columbia University, while a replica will be presented to Mrs. Chandler, and third, the creation of a Chandler testimonial fund for the purpose of purchasing books for the library of the Chemists' Club. Subscriptions for the dinner (five dollars) and to the testimonial may be sent to the treasurer of the committee of arrangements, Dr. Morris Loeb, 273 Madison Avenue, New York City.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY will be president of the British Association for the meeting to be held next year at Portsmouth.

ON the occasion of the installation of the Duke of Devonshire as chancellor of the University of Leeds, on June 11, the degree of doctor of science will be conferred on Lord Rayleigh, Sir Clements Markham and Dr. Osler.

THE Royal College of Surgeons of England has awarded a gold medal to Dr. Robert Fletcher, principal assistant librarian of the library of the surgeon general's office in Washington, in recognition of his services in connection with the indexing of the catalogue of that library.

THE Philadelphia Geographical Society has conferred its gold medal on Commander Robert E. Peary, who lectured before it.

SIR HARRY JOHNSTON, G.C.M.G., has been elected a corresponding member of the Italian Geographical Society.

A MALACOLOGICAL CLUB has been formed at Boston, with Professor E. S. Morse as the first president.

PRESIDENT CHARLES R. VAN HISE, of the University of Wisconsin, will attend the International Geological Congress at Stockholm, Sweden, this summer, sailing from Quebec on July 1 for Liverpool. He may be accompanied by Professor C. K. Leith of the geological department.

DR. GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY has been appointed to represent Yale University at the International Congress of Americanists to be held in the City of Mexico, September 8 to 14, 1910.

PROFESSOR POULTON, F.R.S., Dr. Dixey, fellow of Wadham College, and Dr. Malcolm Burr, New College, have been appointed as representatives of Oxford University at the International Congress of Entomology to be held at Brussels in August next.

DR. ARTHUR TWINING HADLEY, president of Yale University, has accepted an invitation to deliver the golden jubilee address before the University of California on May 17.

THE council of the Institute of Metals, London, has initiated an annual series of May lectures. The first will be given on May 24 by Professor W. Gowland, F.R.S., on "The Art of Working Metals in Japan."

PROFESSOR WILLIAM GRAHAM SUMNER, of Yale University, eminent for his contributions to sociology and economics, died on April 12, at the age of sixty-nine years.

THE Rev. Jeremiah Lott Zabriskie, known for his work in entomology and microscopy, died at his home in Brooklyn, on April 2, at the age of seventy-five years.

SIR ROBERT GIFFEN, the eminent British statistician, died on April 12, at the age of seventy-three years.

PROFESSOR JULIEN FRAIPONT, rector of the University of Liège, well known for his writings on anthropology and geology, died on March 22 in his fifty-third year.

MR. ADOLPH LEWISOHN has given \$130,000 to Mt. Sinai Hospital for the erection of a pathological laboratory.

WE learn from *Nature* that the valuable collection of shells formed by the late Mr. Thomas Gray, of Glasgow, who died recently at the advanced age of eighty-nine, has been left by him to Kelvingrove Museum, Glasgow. More than 7,000 species of shells are represented in the collection.

PROFESSOR HILARY BAUERMAN, of London, who died on December 5, aged seventy-five, leaving an estate of the value of £15,000, bequeathed £500 to the memorial fund of the Iron and Steel Institute. The residue of his property he left subject to a life interest, to be applied in the encouragement of the study of mineralogical science at the Royal School of Mines.

PRESIDENT TAFT sent to congress on April 9 a message recommending an appropriation of \$50,000 for a laboratory in which to conduct investigations on cancer. "The very great importance of pursuing the investigation into the cause of cancer," said the president, "can not be brought home to the congress or to the public more acutely than by inviting attention to the memorandum of Dr. Gaylord herewith. Progress in the prevention and treatment of human diseases has been marvelously aided by an investigation into some diseases in those of the lower animals which are subject to it, and we have every reason to believe that a close investigation into the subject of cancer in fishes, which are frequently swept away by an epidemic of it, may give us light upon this dreadful human scourge."

CINCINNATI'S city council has repealed the ordinance passed a year ago whereby "more daylight was to be gained for workers by setting local clocks two hours fast from May to October of each year."

A LETTER has been received from Professor E. B. Frost, director of the Yerkes Observatory, regarding recent observations of Halley's Comet made at that place. On April 12 Professor Frost found the comet more conspicuous than the adjacent star *c Piscium*, and Professor Barnard estimated the nucleus, which was not stellar, to be two magnitudes fainter than this star. On April 14 the comet was photographed with 6 m. exposure. No tail was

visible with any of the instruments. Visual observations of the spectrum were made by Professor Frost and Dr. Slocum, and showed a distinct continuous spectrum from the nucleus. No bright bands or lines were seen. The intensity of the continuous spectrum, relative to the emission bands, has greatly changed since the comet was visible in the evening.

THE Harpswell Laboratory, at South Harpswell, Me., will be open to investigators during the present summer from June 20 until September 1. Owing to the absence of Dr. Kingsley in Europe it will be under the charge of Professor H. V. Neal, of Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., to whom all communications and applications for places should be addressed. Thanks to the participation of several colleges and universities, the laboratory is in a position to offer its facilities free to all who are desirous of carrying on investigations on the northern fauna or flora. There are only nine rooms available for students, and as some of these are already engaged, an early application for places is advisable. No circulars will be issued this year.

THE seventh annual session of the Puget Sound Marine Station, located at Friday Harbor in the State of Washington, will commence on June 28 and continue till August 8, 1910. This station, which is conducted upon a cooperative basis through the affiliation of a number of the educational institutions of the northwest, will open this season with greatly increased facilities. A laboratory building is under construction which will be available for use at the beginning of the coming session. This structure will be provided with running water, both fresh and salt, research rooms for investigators, dark room for photography, facilities for elementary instruction and a small but well selected library bearing upon the natural history of the northwest. The equipment includes a steamer fitted with dredging apparatus for deep water work and small boats for shore collecting. Provision has been made for elementary classes as well as for advanced students and for investigators who wish to pursue individual re-

searches. Among those who will offer courses at the station during the coming session are the following: Trevor Kincaid, professor of zoology, University of Washington; Nathaniel L. Gardner, acting professor of botany, University of California; W. J. Baumgartner, assistant professor of zoology, University of Kansas; Geo. B. Riggs, assistant professor of botany, University of Washington; W. L. Moodie, instructor in botany, Bellingham State Normal School; F. A. Hartman, instructor in zoology, Seattle High School. For those wishing to investigate the marine fauna and flora of the northwest coast the Puget Sound Marine Station, located in the midst of a picturesque archipelago of rocky islands, offers an unsurpassed opportunity. Further information with regard to the station will be supplied by the director, Professor Trevor Kincaid, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY has received an offer of \$250,000 from the General Education Board for the purpose of aiding the university in its efforts to put into operation certain extensions and improvements that have been under consideration for several years, including the erection of new buildings on the Homewood site. This sum will be contributed conditional on the raising of a supplementary sum of \$750,000 by the university by December 31, 1910. The university, however, is endeavoring to raise \$2,000,000, half for new buildings, while the other \$1,000,000 will be used for endowment. Among the extensions contemplated are a school of engineering; a law school; a training school for teachers; a department of preventive medicine, and a building for pathology.

A JOINT hearing on the bills to appropriate \$652,000 for new buildings for the College of Agriculture and \$130,000 for new buildings for the Veterinary College at Cornell University was given on April 5 by the finance committee of the senate and the ways and means committee of the assembly. Thirty-six persons spoke in favor of the bills and no body appeared in opposition to them. From

the standpoint of the colleges addresses were given by Acting Director H. J. Webber, Dr. V. A. Moore and Director L. H. Bailey. The hearing was closed by President Schurman's address summarizing the argument.

DR. CHEESMAN A. HERRICK, formerly principal of the William Penn high school for girls, was installed as president of Girard College on April 2.

DR. ALBERT E. GIESCKE, an American and a graduate of Cornell University in political science, has been elected rector of the University of Cuzco, Peru. This university was founded by a papal decree of 1692. Dr. Giescke went there as a member of the faculty in 1908.

At Stanford University appointments have been made as follows: E. W. Ponzzer, of the University of Illinois, assistant professor of applied mathematics; Hans Zinsser, instructor in bacteriology in Columbia University, associate professor of bacteriology; Frank P. Blaisdell, assistant professor of anatomy; David M. Folsom, assistant professor of mining; Galen H. Clevenger, assistant professor of metallurgy; Rufus C. Bentley and Lewis M. Terman, assistant professors of education. As instructors have been appointed Perley A. Ross, in physics, and George F. McEwen, in applied mathematics. The following promotions have been made: George C. Price, now associate professor, to be professor of zoology; George J. Peirce, now associate professor, to be professor of botany; William A. Hillebrand, now instructor in electrical engineering, to be assistant professor; Royce R. Long, now instructor in physical training, to be assistant professor; Luther W. Bahney, now instructor in metallurgy, to be assistant professor.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### THE GERM THEORY OF DISEASE

IN SCIENCE for April 1, p. 500, Dr. Fielding H. Garrison has pointed out the true author of the germ theory. We can readily accept this until an earlier author is discovered by some one. Knowledge in most cases seems to