

as occurring farther north than Denver, Colo. (lat. $39^{\circ} 40' 36''$ N.); nor do I know of any previous record of their having been found in Utah.

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THE GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

THE articles under the above caption by Professors Jastrow and Creighton in recent issues of this journal are timely contributions to one of the most important problems now engaging the attention of American educators. That interest in it is widespread, I am assured by personal conversation with representatives of college faculties from all sections of the union east of the Mississippi River.

About two years ago, local conditions forced the faculty of the Randolph-Macon Woman's College to adopt some means of conserving the scholarly status of the institution and of safeguarding the instructor's pedagogic liberty. A committee, appointed for the purpose, drafted a constitution for the college, which, after undergoing certain modifications suggested in conference with the president and board of trustees, was adopted by the board at its session in June of the current year. Its essential features are the following items, of which I would call particular attention to the fifth, sixth and seventh:

1. The fields of instruction which are at present recognized as distinct shall be constituted departments.
2. The senior professor in each field shall be head of the department, given its entire control, and held responsible for results.
3. The following grades shall be established in the instructional staff: (a) professor and head of department, (b) associate professor, (c) adjunct professor, (d) instructor, (e) assistant.
4. The president shall nominate heads of departments.
5. The heads of departments shall nominate their subordinates.
6. All questions affecting the educational policy of the institution shall be presented to the executive committee upon resolution of the faculty.
7. Only heads of departments may vote on questions affecting the educational policy of the college.
8. All members of the faculty except instructors

and assistants may vote on questions of routine business.

FERNANDO W. MARTIN

RANDOLPH-MACON WOMAN'S COLLEGE

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Canada Department of Mines, Geological Survey Branch. Catalogue of Canadian Birds. By JOHN MACOUN, Naturalist to the Geological Survey, Canada, and JAMES M. MACOUN, Assistant Naturalist to the Geological Survey, Canada. Ottawa, Government Printing Bureau. 1909. Pp. viii + 761 + xviii.

This excellent piece of technical work is essentially a compend of known facts concerning the distribution and breeding habits of the birds of the Dominion of Canada, Newfoundland, Greenland and Alaska—of all America, in short, north of the main northern boundary of the United States. It is a second edition, largely rewritten and considerably expanded, of the well-known "Catalogue of Canadian Birds," prepared by John and James M. Macoun, father and son, and first published in three installments between 1900 and 1904. An important part of the contents of this volume is the product of field observations by the authors and by Mr. Wm. Spreadborough, made during many years of service on the Geological Survey of Canada, those of the senior author beginning in 1879, of the junior Macoun in 1885, and of Spreadborough in 1889. With their personal notes have been incorporated all pertinent data from the published work of other naturalists, and from manuscript lists and notes of more than a score of observers whose materials have been placed at the disposal of the compilers.

The plan of the work is extremely simple and unassuming. Preceded by no introductory discussion, and followed by no general summary, the catalogue begins at once with a discussion of the species, giving for each, in systematic succession, without descriptive matter, the details of its Canadian distribution, both geographical and ecological, its movements in migration, and its breeding habits, with descriptions of nests and frequently of eggs. The precise authority for observations reported is carefully given. Seven hundred and sixty-eight species are