

567 deaths, 20,389 marriages and 1,365 divorces have been recorded.

A PARTY of about fifty railroad men visited the college of engineering of the University of Illinois on Wednesday, November 9. The party was composed of executive and engineering officers of the railroads having headquarters in Chicago. The visit was made upon the invitation of Dean W. F. M. Goss. Its object was the inspection of the buildings and equipment of the college of engineering, and a discussion of the possibility of a closer educational alliance between the railroad service and the university. After a trip of inspection over the plant of the college of engineering, an informal conference was held between the railroad officials and the heads of departments of the college. Resolutions were passed by the visiting party expressing their appreciation of the need of the college for ampler facilities and more complete equipment, especially along the lines of railway and transportation engineering.

UNDER the provisions of the Indian Museum act of 1910, the ethnological and art collections have been separated from those of economic products, and in his last report of the museum as originally constituted, the curator, Mr. I. H. Burkill, has, says *Nature*, given a useful account of its past history and present condition. The museum was first started by the Asiatic Society in 1814, the first donor being the Countess of Loudoun. The collections have passed through many vicissitudes, due to the absence of suitable accommodation. Under the present scheme of reorganization they have at last been placed upon a satisfactory footing. The ethnological gallery now contains about 11,000 exhibits, but it still lacks a proper descriptive catalogue, which can be prepared only by a competent ethnologist. The progress of the art series has been stimulated by the patronage of Lord Curzon, who provided an annual state grant of about £400 for the purchase of specimens. Most of the older economical exhibits have perished, but these are being gradually replaced. These collections are now being arranged in suitable galleries.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

At the November meeting of the Yale Corporation at the university, announcement was made of an anonymous gift of \$15,000, the interest of which is to be used as an emergency loan fund in the interest of instructors and assistant professors of the university. Announcement was also made of the receipt of \$30,000 of a fund of \$50,000 left to the university by the late J. Burnett Collins, of Fort Worth, Texas; of the receipt of \$20,000 from Newton Barney, of Farmington, Conn., toward the fund for the professorship of education, and the receipt of a like amount from the family of the late John H. Whittemore, of Naugatuck as a memorial gift.

THE University of Vermont has just received \$25,000 by the will of Lewis L. Coburn, a graduate of the class of 1859.

A VIVARIUM for botany and zoology is being constructed at Dartmouth College. It will be a glass and concrete structure, forty-three feet long. Part of the building will be devoted to the experimental work of a new course in physiological botany. The interior fixtures will consist of double rows of concrete tables for the plants, and floor tanks with running water for plants and animals. The building will probably be ready for use by the first of next semester.

THE dean of Northwestern University Medical School announces that hereafter the institution will require two years of collegiate work for admission instead of one year as heretofore.

DR. J. S. THOMSON has been appointed demonstrator in zoology at the University of Manchester in succession to Dr. W. D. Henderson, appointed lecturer in zoology in the University of Bristol.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

ROMANTIC NOMENCLATURE

THE difference between the name *quintus* and the numeral 5 as a partial designation for a species excites my friend, Professor Cockerell, to considerable exaggeration.¹ Indeed,

¹ SCIENCE for September 30, p. 428.