public purposes now amount to about $200,000,000.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

AT its last meeting the Rumford Committee of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences made the following grants: To Professor Joel Stebbins, of the University of Illinois, $200, in further aid of his researches on the selenium photometer. To Professor M. A. Rosanoff, of Clark University, $300, in further aid of his investigation on the fractional distillation of binary mixtures.

THE Society of American Bacteriologists will meet in Washington, D. C., the last week in December of this year. The officers are: *President,* F. P. Gorham, Brown University; *Secretary,* Charles E. Marshall, Michigan Agricultural College.

AT the annual meeting of the New York Pathological Society, held at the Academy of Medicine, on January 11, the following officers were elected: *President,* Dr. William G. MacCallum; *Vice-president,* Dr. John H. Larkin; *Secretary and Editor,* Dr. A. M. Pappenheimer; *Treasurer,* Dr. Francis C. Wood. Dr. T. M. Prudden and Dr. E. K. Dunham were reelected trustees of the society to serve for a term of three years. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the Philadelphia Pathological Society in Philadelphia on February 9.

MR. S. P. JONES, formerly assistant state geologist of Georgia, is with the New Jersey Geological Survey.

MR. C. E. BRADLEY has resigned as chemist of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Corvallis, Oregon, to accept the position of research chemist with the Rubber Regenerating Company, of Mishawaka, Indiana.

THE program of the Section of Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry of the New York Academy of Sciences on January 27 included the following papers on Aviation: "Experiences in Aviation," Mr. Clifford B. Harmon; "Practical Utility of Flying Machines," Mr. Hudson Maxim; "The Aeroplane" (illustrated by lantern slides), Lieutenant Phillip Wilcox, U. S. A. R.; "Taking the First Photographs of the Flights of the Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina" (illustrated by lantern slides), Mr. James H. Hare.

PROFESSOR W. P. MASON, of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, delivered a lecture before the Williams College Natural Science Club on "Water and Disease," on January 19.

THE Smithsonian Institution is about to come into possession of a bequest by the recent death of George W. Poore, Esq., of Lowell, Mass. His will provides, after certain minor legacies, that the residue of his estate be given to the Smithsonian Institution to form the Lucy T. and George W. Poore Fund, the income of which is to be used for the purposes for which the institution was founded. The will further requires that this fund shall be kept separate from all other funds and the income to be added to the principal until it shall have reached the sum of $250,000. Mr. Poore explains in his will that he makes this bequest in the hope that "it will form an example for other Americans to follow by supporting and encouraging so wise and beneficent an institution as I believe the Smithsonian Institution to be."

MR. ALCAN HIRSH, a graduate student in electro-chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, has succeeded in producing about half a pound of metallic cerium, one of the rare elements which heretofore has been isolated only in small quantities.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON hopes in the course of next year to undertake an expedition to Spitzbergen, spending two and a half or three months in the islands. His party will probably consist of six, including Mr. J. Murray, the biologist, and other members of the *Nimrod* expedition.

HON. CHARLES H. SHERRILL, United States Minister to Argentine Republic, will give an address on February 16 to the officers and students of Columbia University on the opportunities for American engineers in public works and other fields in Argentine.

DR. H. W. WILEY, chief of the division of chemistry of the Department of Agriculture,

lectured before the Chemical Society of Washington and Lee University on January 13, his subject being "Some of the less Obvious Advantages of Chemical Study." Dr. J. W. Mallet, of the University of Virginia, is to lecture before the society on February 17.

PROFESSOR GEORGE T. MOORE recently gave a series of lectures before the Washington University Association on "What goes on in the Ground."

WITH a greatly increased equipment the new laboratory of St. Luke's Hospital, New York, has recently been opened. Some changes have been made also in the personnel of the laboratory staff, which now includes Dr. Francis C. Wood, director; Dr. Karl M. Vogel, clinical pathologist; Dr. J. Gardner Hopkins, bacteriologist; Dr. William H. Woglom, pathologist; Dr. George C. Freeborn, assistant in pathology, and Dr. N. B. Foster and Dr. H. O. Mosenthal, assistants in chemistry.

THE New York Zoological Park has received from Mr. E. B. Bronson, from Quito, Ecuador, a fine specimen of the Spectacled Bear (*Ursus ornatus*), captured in the Andes of Ecuador. Excepting the Æluropus, of eastern Tibet, this is the rarest bear species either alive in zoological gardens or in museums. The specimen is temporarily exhibited in one of the large cages of the small mammal house, where it will remain until the new series of bear dens now under contract and in the course of erection is completed, which will be about June first.

TWENTY-THREE cases of zoological material representing several hundred skins of birds and mammals have been received by the American Museum of Natural History as the first shipment of specimens from the Stefánsson-Anderson Arctic Expedition.

AT the last meeting of the Oregon Academy of Sciences a number of new members were elected. The subject of the evening was "The Single Tax," by C. H. Chapman, one of the editors of the *Oregonian*. The meeting was held early in the evening preceded by a dinner which was attended by about sixty-five persons. It was decided to use this plan for a part of the monthly meetings this year combining social and scientific features.

A GERMAN edition of "Light Waves and their Uses," by Professor Albert A. Michelson, head of the department of physics of the University of Chicago, has just been issued by the publishing house of Johann Ambrosius Barth in Leipzig. The translation was made by Dr. Max Ikle. The lectures which constitute the book were originally delivered by Professor Michelson in the Lowell Institute in 1899. The translator has added a bibliography of writings bearing on this subject published since 1880.

WE learn from *Nature* that the Agenda Club, which was formally inaugurated by a banquet recently, proposes to organize effort, knowledge and influence for the purpose of getting things done which need doing for the benefit of the community. The movement first acquired publicity through "An Open Letter to English Gentlemen" in the *Hibbert Journal*. This letter, and the club itself, appeal frankly to the idealism and the goodwill of the best men; but an equally essential characteristic of the club is to organize the altruism of its members with at least as much efficiency as that of the most successful modern business. The club expressly enunciates its need of guidance by scientific men in determining the agenda to be undertaken and in many details of its work. It is a coordinating society, and not one that overlaps the work of other bodies devoted to special purposes. Among other methods to be employed is that of the most extensive publicity. It contemplates the encouragement of research, especially in social science, and its scheme includes groups of associates, among which are mentioned engineering, literature, medicine and science.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association writes that on October 26 the Berliner medizinische Gesellschaft celebrated its semi-centennial. The memorial meeting was of peculiar importance, as this society is not only the largest medical association in Berlin, but also one of

the most noted and largest in Germany and can look back on a notable past. The society was formed by the union of two Berlin societies. The older of these was founded in 1844 as a society for scientific medicine and the younger was the Verein Berliner Aerzte, founded in 1858. In order to obviate any difficulties arising from the union of the two societies, which took place in 1860, Rudolf Virchow resigned his position as president of the society for scientific medicine, in favor of Albrecht v. Gräfe, the president of the other society. The Berlin Medical Society, in spite of the separation from it of numerous special associations, of which that founded by v. Leyden as the Verein für innere Medizin was the first, has still remained the central point of scientific medical activity in Berlin, and almost every Berlin physician considers it his duty to belong to it, so that at present it has more than 1,600 members. As a result of the participation of the university teachers, the scientific proceedings are always valuable and a number of important discoveries have been presented here for the first time. As successors of v. Gräfe, Bernhardt von Langenbeck, Rudolf Virchow, Ernst v. Bergmann, and finally H. Senator have held the office of president. Robert Koch, Helmholtz and Pasteur were made honorary members, a distinction which has seldom been bestowed. On the occasion of the semi-centennial the number of honorary members was considerably increased, including in addition to two living members of the society, two physicians practising in Berlin, Professor Waldeyer and the surgeon general of the Prussian army, v. Schjerning, Naunyn (Baden-Baden), Exner and Fuchs (Vienna), Golgi, Armauer-Hansen (Christiania), Abraham Jacobi (New York), Fr. Koranyi (Budapest), Keen (Philadelphia), Kitasato (Tokio), Laveran (Paris), Lépine (Lyons), Lister, Murri (Bologna), Pawlow (St. Petersburg), Ramon y Cajal (Madrid), Retzius (Stockholm), Salomonsen (Copenhagen) and Röntgen (Munich). Senator was elected honorary president. On the festival day it was announced that so far $15,000 (63,000 Marks) had been subscribed by the members for the building of the projected Virchow House, which is to be the special home of the society. The widow of Virchow on the same occasion announced that she would make over to the new building the private collections and valuable memorials of Virchow.

AT a meeting of the trustees of the Beit memorial fellowships for medical research, the reports by the fellows on their work during the past year, which had been considered by the advisory board, were approved. The following is a list of those who were elected to fellowships, the subject of research and the institution in which it is to be carried forward:

Thomas Renton Elliott, M.D. (Cantab.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.). The pathological changes in the suprarenal glands. Medical School of University College Hospital.

Eric Edwin Atkin, M.B. (Cantab.). A group of toxins with respect to the manner of destruction, mode of neutralization by antibody, and effect of the various modifications upon the animal organism. The Bacteriological Laboratory of the London Hospital.

Frances Mary Tozer, B.Sc. (Lond.). The presence of sensory fibers in the third, fourth and sixth cranial nerves; their influence upon ocular paralysis in locomotor ataxia and other diseases, and the site of the ganglion cells. The Physiological Laboratory of the Liverpool University.

Richard Williams Harold Row, B.Sc. (Lond.). The structure, development and functions of the pituitary body in vertebrata. King's College, London, the Marine Biological Association's Laboratory, and the Naples Zoological Station.

Henry Priestley, M.B., Ch.M. (Sydney). The diphtheroid organisms with regard to their distribution, morphology, cultural characteristics, pathology and relationship to diseased conditions of man and animals. The Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine.

Frederick Perera Wilson, M.D., M.Sc. (Liverpool). The changes in the lipoids of the tissues produced by syphilis and their relation to hæmolysis and immunity. The Biochemical Department of the University of Liverpool.

Artnur Gurney Yates, M.D. (Edin.). The bacteriology of acute rheumatism. The Pathological Department of the University of Sheffield.

Annie Homer, D.Sc., T.C.D. The chemistry and

physiology of tryptophane; the metabolism and chemistry of hæmoglobin in so far as they bear on its production in the animal body; the comparison of normal and pathological tissues as regards their content of intracellular ferments. The Physiological and Chemical Laboratories, Cambridge.

Frederick James Fitzmaurice Barrington, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. The functions of the male accessory genital glands. University College Medical School.

John Foster Gaskell, M.B., B.C. (Cantab.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.). The origin of the suprarenal body in the invertebrates and lower vertebrates and the function of chlorogogen cells in invertebrates. St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

HARVARD UNIVERSITY has received an additional gift of $100,000 from Mr. Adolphus Busch, of St. Louis, Mo., towards the erection and maintenance of the Germanic Museum. This sum makes a total of $350,000 given to the museum by Mr. Busch.

IT is stated in the *Yale Alumni Weekly* that owing to the lack of room, notwithstanding the great wealth of material, the work of mounting prehistoric animals for public exhibition at Peabody Museum has been temporarily discontinued. The development of the resources of the museum must apparently await new building construction. This may involve an entirely new site and plant in accordance with the university development on the Hillhouse property. The building fund of the institution, according to the last report of the university treasurer, amounted to $173,923.

THE Harvard University Catalogue shows this year a total enrollment of 4,123 students in the university exclusive of the summer schools, Radcliffe College, and the university extension courses. The total number of students is 77 more than it was at the corresponding period last year. The attendance in the college is 48 less than it was last year, but this decrease is more than offset by gains in the graduate and law schools.

MR. CLARENCE T. JOHNSTON has been appointed professor of civil engineering at the University of Michigan, succeeding Professor Emeritus J. B. Davis, retired on the Carnegie grant. Professor Johnson was graduated from the University of Michigan as an engineer in 1895, and received the degree of C.E. in 1899. He was state engineer of Wyoming during the period in which were formulated the irrigation laws.

AT a meeting of the trustees of Princeton University on January 12, 1911, William Gillespie, assistant professor, and George David Birkhoff, preceptor, were made full professors of mathematics. Ulric Dahlgren, assistant professor of biology, was made full professor.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

CARELESS CRITICISM

WITHIN the past year a new book has appeared, bearing the title "Recent Advances in Physical and Inorganic Chemistry," by A. W. Stewart. The book has received very favorable comment from the reviewers in various chemical journals; and deservedly so, for the author has selected certain striking lines of advance and has pointed out the chief experimental evidence on which these are based.

There is one glaring error, however, which seems to have escaped the notice of the reviewers. In all of the chapters, except one, the author writes from the standpoint of the record as shown in chemical literature, but in this, the seventh chapter, The Cobaltammines, he departs from his usual conservatism and assumes the rôle of a caustic critic.

After a discussion of the various views put forward to explain the structure of these compounds, the author plunges into the Jörgensen-Werner controversy, defending very earnestly Jörgensen's views and criticizing with equal warmth those of Werner. On page 121, following a discussion of the points at issue between Jörgensen and Werner, the author states:

Now, since all these difficulties arise only from the assumption that the ethylene diamine series of compounds are exactly parallel to the tetrammino-compounds, the simplest way out of the difficulty seems to be to abandon any such parallelism. Jörgensen pointed out that in the case of