

\$1,000, respectively, as research associates of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

DR. G. CARL HUBER, professor of histology and embryology in the department of medicine of the University of Michigan, has tendered his resignation as secretary. Dr. Huber has been made head of the new department of embryology at the Wistar Institute of Anatomy, Philadelphia, and will spend part of his time there. An arrangement has been effected for the next two years. By long service Dr. Huber has earned a year's leave of absence, which the regents have consented to allow in two periods of six months each. During the next semester Dr. Huber will be at the Wistar Institute, and he will return to the University of Michigan for the first semester of next year. Dr. C. W. Edmunds, professor of therapeutics and materia medica, has been elected secretary of the department.

PROFESSOR R. A. HARPER, head of the department of botany at the University of Wisconsin, has left for the University of California, where he will lecture during the remainder of the present academic year. Professor George J. Pierce, of Stanford University, will be acting professor of botany at the University of Wisconsin.

DR. ARTHUR W. WEYSSE, professor of biology at Boston University, has started on a trip around the world on sabbatical leave of absence. He will sail from San Francisco on February 8, for Hawaii and Japan, and will be away about eight months.

ON January 20 Professor Arthur Michael lectured before the members and research students at the department of chemistry at Clark University on his recent observations in connection with reversible organic chemistry. A result of the greatest importance is Professor Michael's discovery of an apparently new factor influencing the velocity of organic reactions.

DR. GEORGE T. MOORE, of the Shaw Botanical Gardens at St. Louis, gave a public lecture before the Society of Sigma Xi, of Cornell University, on January 17, on "Some Striking Advances in Botanical Science and the Application of these in Practical Affairs."

ON January 13 Professor A. E. Kennelly, of Harvard University, delivered a lecture before the Society of Sigma Xi at the University of Pennsylvania on "Wireless Telegraphy and Telephony as compared with Wire Telegraphy and Telephony."

A SPECIAL meeting of the Geological Conference was held at Harvard University on January 31, when Mr. Frank A. Perret, of Naples, Italy, spoke on "Volcanoes and Volcanic Action," with illustrations. Mr. Perret has spent the last six years in the study of volcanic problems, and has lived on Vesuvius, Etna and Stromboli during their recent eruptions.

AT a general meeting of the Association of Public School Science Masters held in London on January 11 and 12, the president, Sir Edwin Ray Lankester delivered an address on "Compulsory Science *versus* Compulsory Greek."

AT a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on January 16 Dr. Johan Hjort gave a detailed account of the Michael Sars North Atlantic deep sea expedition of 1910, which he, with Professor H. H. Grau, Dr. Helland-Hansen, Mr. E. Koefoed, and Captain Thor Iversen, undertook at the suggestion and at the expense of Sir John Murray, who himself accompanied them.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE General Education Board has made conditional appropriations as follows: Brown University, \$100,000; Carleton College, \$100,000; Colorado College, \$50,000; Dakota Wesleyan University, \$50,000; Denison University, \$75,000; Fisk University, \$60,000; Mount Holyoke College, \$100,000; Randolph-Macon College, \$50,000; Swarthmore College, \$75,000; Wesleyan College for Women, \$50,000.

THE bill increasing the annual appropriation from the state of Vermont to Middlebury College by \$7,600 has been signed by Governor Mead. This will make the state appropriation to Middlebury \$16,000 a year, beginning on July 1. The increase is "to provide additional instruction in the departments

of pedagogy, in forestry and in scientific branches related to the industries of Vermont."

A GIFT of \$50,000 to Cornell University by Mrs. Florence O. R. Lang, of Montclair, N. J., will be used in the construction of a new building to house the shops of the Sibley College of Mechanical Engineering.

THE will of Octavia Williams Bates, of Baltimore, leaves to the library of the department of law of the University of Michigan, a bequest of \$20,000. A bequest of \$5,000 is made to the Detroit High School Scholarship Fund Association, an organization designed to lend money to graduates of the Central High School of Detroit, so that they may attend the university. A number of other legacies for private and public purposes are provided. When all these are settled, the remainder of the estate is to go to the University of Michigan. Miss Bates was a graduate of the literary department of the university in 1877, and of the law in 1896.

DR. A. M. HILTEBEITEL has been appointed instructor in mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. H. B. Smith has been appointed instructor in the same department for the ensuing term, to fill the vacancy caused by the temporary absence of Professor Evans.

At the Massachusetts Agricultural College Dr. Guy Chester Crampton has been appointed associate professor of entomology. Dr. Crampton is a native of Alabama. He graduated from Princeton in 1904, took two years of graduate work at Cornell University, receiving his M.A. there in 1905, followed by two years at the universities of Freiburg, Munich and Berlin, where he received his Ph.D in 1908. He was an instructor in biology at Princeton from 1908 to 1910 and since the summer of 1910 has been professor of zoology at Clemson College.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

NUMERICAL NOMENCLATURE

THE recent proposal of Professor James G. Needham¹ to use numbers and symbols as aids in zoological nomenclature, which has been

¹ SCIENCE, N. S., Vol. XXXII., p. 295.

sympathetically discussed by Professor Henry B. Ward² and destructively criticized by Professor T. D. A. Cockerell³ in the columns of SCIENCE, has reminded me that one of the earliest attempts at entomological classification employed the numerical method which Professor Needham appears to think likely to prove useful. In the year 1766 (one hundred and forty-five years ago) the Rev. Jacob Christian Schaeffer, D.D., began the publication of an illustrated work upon the insects found in the vicinity of Regensburg, his home, and brought it to a conclusion in the year 1779. The title of the work is given in Latin and German as follows: "Icones Insectorum circa Ratisbonam indigenorum coloribus naturam referentibus expressæ. Natürlich ausgemahlte Abbildungen Regensburgschen Insecten." The indices of the several volumes show that they might have served as models for Professor Needham. Opening at random I find the following in volume I.:

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| | No. |
| CICINDELA, | 1 |
| | 2 |
| | 3 |
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| SPHINX. | |
| | No. |
| Fam. I. Al. angul. | 1 |
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| | 3 |
| | 4 |
| | 5 |
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| Fam. II. Al. int. caud. simpl. | 1 |
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| | 10 |
| | 11 |
| Fam. III. Al. int. caud. pil. | 1 |
| | 2 |

² SCIENCE, N. S., Vol. XXXIII., p. 25.

³ SCIENCE, N. S., Vol. XXXII., p. 428.