

and social parasitism is not a similitude. Organic degeneracy and degeneracy in human society are not, I take it, a mere equivalence in terms, but a result in effects through stages of adaptation entirely comprehensible. Sin, then, the expression of degeneracy, we may reasonably hope to believe and perhaps eventually to demonstrate from the facts of our science, is an error whose cure may lie within our own inherent impulses and whose existence may be terminated with the stronger growth of our intellectual and moral perceptions entirely within the sphere of nature herself.

JOHN M. CLARKE

#### THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COLLEGE MEN

THE *Yale News* has made an analysis of "Who's Who in America" for 1910-11 and finds in the book the names of 8,529 college men. The data for fourteen institutions are given as follows:

	Law	Medicine	Education	Science	Engineering	Ministry	Writing	Mining Eng.	Journalism	Finance and Business	Government Service	Retired	Total
Harvard..	158	92	175	111	25	48	77	6	59	41	43	15	813
Columbia.	62	29	53	32	13	19	14	7	10	15	7	—	261
Yale.....	130	51	131	71	24	84	49	4	43	41	42	10	681
Michigan.	57	28	69	47	12	9	17	2	8	8	24	10	271
Virginia..	38	19	27	11	2	8	2	—	1	2	11	1	122
Wesleyan.	14	3	37	12	2	32	4	—	6	1	7	3	121
Princeton	50	20	41	11	3	46	14	1	17	8	8	1	210
R. P. U....	2	—	—	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
Amherst..	23	10	65	29	5	36	12	—	10	9	4	2	205
Williams.	21	5	27	10	1	30	8	—	9	4	7	1	123
Chicago...	10	5	32	18	—	7	4	—	4	5	2	1	88
M. I. T....	—	3	4	16	20	1	3	—	2	2	2	—	52
Cornell ...	15	9	38	39	27	7	11	—	10	3	5	3	167
Penn .....	32	53	29	18	11	15	10	3	11	4	9	3	200

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE officers of the American Museum of Natural History, who were elected at the annual meeting of the board, held February 13, 1911, are as follows: *President*, Henry Fairfield Osborn; *First Vice-president*, Cleveland H. Dodge; *Second Vice-president*, J. Pierpont Morgan, Jr.; *Treasurer*, Charles Lanier; *Secretary*, Archer M. Huntington; *Acting*

*Director*, Charles H. Townsend; *Assistant Treasurer*, United States Trust Company of New York; *Assistant Secretary*, George H. Sherwood. By unanimous vote of the trustees, Professor Bashford Dean, Columbia University, was reinstated in his post as curator of ichthyology and herpetology. The trustees also promoted Dr. W. D. Matthew from acting curator to curator of the department of vertebrate paleontology. Barnum Brown, assistant curator of fossil reptiles and Walter Granger, assistant curator of fossil mammals, become associate curators.

FOR the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which is to take place this year at Portsmouth on August 30 and following days, under the presidency of Professor Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., F.R.S., the following presidents have been appointed to the various sections: *Mathematical and Physical Science*, Professor H. H. Turner, D.Sc., F.R.S.; *Chemistry*, Professor J. Walker, D.Sc., F.R.S.; *Geology*, A. Harker, M.A., F.R.S.; *Zoology*, Professor D'Arcy W. Thompson, C.B.; *Geography*, Col. C. F. Close, R.E., C.M.G.; *Economic Science and Statistics*, Hon. W. Pember Reeves; *Engineering*, Professor J. H. Biles, LL.D.; *Anthropology*, Dr. W. H. R. Rivers, F.R.S.; *Physiology*, Professor J. S. Macdonald; *Botany*, Professor F. E. Weiss, D.Sc., with W. Bateson, F.R.S., as *chairman of the Sub-section of Agriculture*; *Educational Science*, Rt. Rev. J. E. C. Well-ton, D.D.

A PORTRAIT of Sir William Crookes by Mr. E. A. Walton, has been presented to the Royal Society.

PROFESSOR D. OLIVER, F.R.S., formerly keeper of the herbarium and library of the Kew Gardens, known for his important contributions to botany, celebrated his eightieth birthday on February 5.

MEMBERSHIP in the Prussian House of Lords has been conferred on Dr. Wilhelm Waldeyer, professor of anatomy in the University of Berlin.

THE gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society has been presented to Dr. P. H.

Cowell, for his contributions to the lunar theory and gravitational astronomy.

THE Hopkins prize has been awarded by the Cambridge Philosophical Society to Professor J. H. Poynting, F.R.S., of the University of Birmingham, for his researches on the transmission of energy in the electric field and on the pressure exerted by radiation.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association notes that in addition to the Nicholas Senn high school, the site for which has been secured, Chicago schools are named after the following physicians: Daniel Brainard, William H. Byford, Nathan Smith Davis and Charles Warrington Earle.

MR. F. W. DYSON, F.R.S., astronomer royal, and Surgeon-General Sir Alfred Keogh, K.C.B., rector of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, have been elected members of the Athenæum Club for their scientific work.

M. G. BIGOURDAN has been appointed president of the Bureau des longitudes, Paris. M. B. Baillaud is the vice-president and M. H. Andoyer, the secretary.

DR. HENRY SKINNER has resigned the editorship of *Entomological News*, taking effect with the number for December, 1910. He had been editor continuously since March, 1890, since which time the journal increased in size from 168 pages and no plates to 484 pages and 14 plates per annum. The journal is in charge of the joint publication committee of the Entomological Section of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia and of the American Entomological Society. This committee accepted Dr. Skinner's resignation with regret and elected Dr. Philip P. Calvert (associate editor since January, 1893) editor, Ezra T. Cresson, Jr. associate editor, and Dr. Skinner editor emeritus.

At a meeting of the American Philosophical Society on March 3, Professor F. M. Jaeger, of the University of Groningen, will read a paper "On Fluid Crystals and Bi-refracting Liquids."

PROFESSOR L. H. BAILEY, dean of the Agricultural College of the State of New York,

appeared as the ninth lecturer upon the J. C. Campbell Foundation of the Sigma Xi Society of the Ohio State University on the evening of Wednesday, February 8. He spoke upon the subject "The Country Life Movement."

DR. M. P. RAVENEL, head of the department of bacteriology, represented the University of Wisconsin at the meeting of the American Association of School Hygiene, where he read a paper on "The Function of University Faculty Committees on Hygiene."

DR. M. B. THOMAS, of Wabash College, recently lectured to the Illinois State Horticultural Society on "The Nature of Parasitic Fungi and their Relation to Their Hosts."

THIRTY-SEVEN professors from the University of Wisconsin appear on the program of the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, the Wisconsin Archeological Society, the Wisconsin Mycological Society and the Wisconsin Natural History Society, which opened in Madison, February 17. The opening address of the first day was on "The Relation between Area and Temperature of Lakes," by Dean Edward A. Birge, of the college of letters and science. Fifteen addresses were made by members of the university departments of geology, botany and zoology.

DR. EDWARD HITCHCOCK, for fifty years professor of hygiene and physical education at Amherst College, died on February 15, aged eighty-two years.

PROFESSOR FRANK J. PHILLIPS, head of the department of forestry in the University of Nebraska since 1907, died on February 13, at his home in Lincoln, Nebraska. He was a graduate of the Michigan Agricultural College and the University of Michigan, and had spent several years in the United States Forest Service before his connection with the University of Nebraska. He was the author of a number of important scientific papers and was one of the most brilliant teachers that the university has known.

DR. M. WILHELM MEYER, known for his contributions to astronomy, and his efforts to

popularize this science, has died at Meran at the age of fifty-eight years.

THE death is also announced of Dr. Sigmund Grundfenger, formerly professor of mathematics at Darmstadt.

HERR LEOPOLD KOPPEL, a Berlin banker, has given \$175,000 for the erection of a research institute for physical chemistry in Berlin and will make a further gift of \$87,500 extended over the next ten years for maintenance.

THE senate has passed the Weeks bill providing for the establishment of a forest reserve in the Appalachian Mountains by a vote of 57 to 9. The bill is applicable from Maine to the Gulf of Mexico, on the eastern seaboard. It was passed by the house at the last session. The bill gives the consent of Congress to the states to enter into an agreement among themselves for the purpose of conserving the forests and water supply of each, and appropriates \$200,000 to enable the secretary of agriculture to cooperate with such states in giving fire protection. In addition, the bill appropriates \$1,000,000 for one year, and not more than \$2,000,000 for each year thereafter, until 1915, for surveys, examinations and acquirement of lands located at the headwaters of streams which are being or may be developed for navigable purposes. A commission composed of the secretaries of war, interior and agriculture and of two members each of the house and senate is created to acquire these lands subsequent to an examination by the Geological Survey.

It is reported in *Nature* that at a special general meeting of the Geological Society of London on January 25, the following resolutions were passed: (1) That the space now occupied by the museum be made available for the extension of the library. (2) That it is desirable that the society's collections of fossils, minerals and rocks, with certain exceptions to be subsequently specified, be offered to one or more of the national museums, provided that guarantees be obtained that the specimens will be properly registered and rendered available for scientific purposes. (3) That it is not desirable that the society should accept money for any part of the collections,

or in consideration of them. (4) That the council be empowered to approach such institution, or institutions, with the view of carrying the above resolutions into effect, and that the council shall call another special general meeting to express approval or otherwise of the arrangement proposed.

THE late Dr. Huchard has bequeathed to the Académie de médecine a sum of \$20,000 to found an annual prize to aid young students, who like his son, Marcel Huchard, in whose memory the prize is founded, are victims to professional devotion and to enable them to continue their studies.

A CATECHISM on bovine tuberculosis is the title of a circular of information issued by Dean H. L. Russell, of the college of agriculture of the University of Wisconsin, and Professor E. G. Hastings, of the university experiment station. This bulletin presents over sixty questions gleaned from inquiries received at the college with brief answers based on the best scientific knowledge of bovine tuberculosis. Complete instructions for determining the presence of the disease through the administering of the tuberculin test are given, together with hints on how to control the disease in a large herd.

THE operation of amblygonite mines in South Dakota during the last two years has reduced the price of lithium carbonate from \$2.50 to 50 cents a pound, and large quantities have been sold at still lower prices. The carbonate is the lithium product most used and is employed in making storage batteries and fireworks and for medicinal purposes. Lithium, the metal, has no practical use. Lithium bromide is used to some extent in photography and in medicine. In an advance chapter of the United States Geological Survey's volume entitled "Mineral Resources of the United States, Calendar Year 1909," prepared by Frank L. Hess, the occurrence and extraction of lithium ores are discussed. In 1909 several carloads of amblygonite were taken from mines at Keystone, S. D., and a few carloads of spodumene were shipped from the same locality by another company. Practically all

the lithium compounds prepared in the United States in 1909 were extracted from these ores.

THE department of public health at the American Museum of Natural History has equipped a laboratory to serve as a central bureau for the preservation and distribution of bacterial cultures of both pathogenic and non-pathogenic organisms, and particularly of types of new forms and varieties. It is hoped that the laboratories of medical schools, colleges, boards of health, agricultural experiment stations, etc., and those engaged in biochemical work of all sorts, will furnish the museum with cultures at present in their possession, and the laboratory is now ready to receive and care for such cultures. Only organisms which have been identified and which have a definite history are desired as a rule; but in the case of rare species, like the organisms of certain tropical diseases, this rule may be departed from. The laboratory can not undertake to maintain more than fifteen different strains of any particular form. Types of new species and varieties are particularly desired at the present time and as they may be isolated in the future. The laboratory plans also to keep on file descriptions of bacterial species in print or arranged in the form of the standard card and will be grateful for copies of any such descriptions. Descriptions filed in the department will be carefully preserved and living cultures will be kept in good condition, so far as possible, and will be supplied at all times without charge to corresponding laboratories and furnished so far as possible and with a reasonable charge to schools and other institutions which may desire cultures. The laboratory, of course, can not undertake to keep on the difficultly-cultivable bacteria, such as can be maintained only for a few weeks after isolation from the body; neither can it at present supply virulent cultures which rapidly lose their virulence under laboratory conditions. It should, however, be able to furnish cultures of organisms of all the ordinary types, which can be maintained under cultivation. Pathogenic forms will be sent only to properly qualified persons.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

It is announced that Professor Hans Meyer has presented 150,000 Marks to the University of Leipzig for the laboratory of experimental psychology established by Professor Wilhelm Wundt.

THE New Hampshire College of Agriculture and Mechanics Arts will continue under that name, the house of representatives of the state not having approved a change to the University of New Hampshire.

A SCHOOL for forest rangers to consist of a two-year course, the winters of which will be spent at the university, and the summers in practical work on the state forest reserves, or in lumbering operations in the field, is proposed to be started at the University of Wisconsin. Outside the Pennsylvania ranger school and those established by the federal forest service in connection with some of the far western institutions, no attempt has been made to meet the demand for expert foresters. It is thought that much of the work of the course in forestry could be given in the present departments of the colleges of engineering and agriculture. The state department of forestry would probably need all the trained men that the school of forestry could turn out for a number of years.

THE newspapers report that following the student disorders in Russia one hundred and twelve professors have resigned or been dismissed. It is further said that the ministry of education in order to attract professors in other countries plans to establish temporary Russian schools of law in Berlin and Paris, a school of natural sciences at Heidelberg and one of medicine at Paris.

It is announced that Dr. George E. MacLean has resigned the presidency of the State University of Iowa, and that Dr. Edmund A. Engler has resigned the presidency of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

MR. FRANK HOWSON, of the University of Durham, has been appointed lecturer in physiology at Sydney, New South Wales.