teaching were presented in SCIENCE under date of September 11, 1908.

Shaw's ability to see a subject from the student's standpoint was a natural consequence of a sympathetic nature, a youthful and buoyant spirit and his simple-mindedness. There was nothing subtle about his mind and nothing covert about his nature. He was the soul of candor.

Clear exposition depends necessarily upon a clear grasp of a subject in the essentials. It depends also on sharpness of memory pictures and upon strong language powers. In all these Shaw excelled. Facts seemed to fall into his mind in their proper relationship almost without effort on his part. The knitted brow was not a characteristic of his face. Effort to clear up a thought was evinced rather by a wide-open movement of the eyes as if merely to take in all the elements of a situation and the answer was given immediately all were included. His memory for names and for essential facts was almost unfailing. The only fault in Shaw's exposition came on the expressive side. He gave the impression often of hesitation when the real trouble was not lack of *a* word, but lack of *his own word.* He was not content with the usual mode of expressing a thought. The truth to him was so engaging that it always seemed to require a special search for a word good enough to give it utterance. However, this fault, if fault it may be called, was seldom a hindrance. There was a certain clarity of thought in his very manner and his obvious sincerity won instant attention. He became quite a favorite in many places about Philadelphia as a popular lecturer.

Shaw's emotional side was as strong as his intellect. Truth for him was not merely the solution of a puzzle, nor merely beautiful, it was a sort of blessing. He cared most for that knowledge which had meaning for the largest life of the human spirit; but that meaning for him could not be expressed by any dogma; he must find it for himself. It was this quality—this deep appreciation of truth—that made his teaching inspiring. His class room was popular because through his clear vision his students got a new insight into nature, the universe, themselves.

Few men have a stronger love of nature in all her moods than had Charles Shaw. Since the age of nineteen, when first he saw the mountains he had spent some time almost every year among them. The Blue Mountains, Catskills, Adirondacks, White Mountains, Selkirks, Rockies, Alps he knew thoroughly. Nearly always he was accompanied by a party of students who learned to camp and to be content under the simplest of conditions—a shelter, a fire, a blanket. They acquired self-reliance and hardihood. They caught his love of life in the open.

Large and strong of body, Shaw was large and strong in his personality. He and I were classmates in college, were post-graduate students together and had been intimate friends ever since. He was the cleanest man I ever knew, and was the best illustration I could give of the beatitude, "Blessed are the pure in heart."

On Christmas day, 1901, Dr. Shaw was married to Miss Blanche Jackson at her home in Waterloo, Iowa. This union had the greatest influence in developing him to full, noble stature. Two most promising children are left with Mrs. Shaw.

J. R. MURLIN

THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS MOVEMENT FOR A UNIVERSITY CONSTITUTION

THE first step toward carrying out the plan devised by President James of forming a constitution for the University of Illinois was taken on Monday evening, March 13, 1911.

President James on that evening met with a committee of the senate consisting of fifteen members of the faculty and outlined to them what he conceived to be the situation, the underlying problems and the possibilities. After speaking of the organization of foreign universities, including those of England and Prussia, President James called the committee's attention to the changing and shifting conditions in the universities of the United States and particularly in the states immediately surrounding Illinois.

In Iowa a new method of administration of the State University and other state schools was entered upon this last year. The boards of regents were abolished and the three state institutions are being governed by one board of education, the members of which are appointed by the governor. In Kansas a similar law has just been passed and awaits only the signature of the governor to make it effective.

If such radical changes are to be made it would seem wiser that they should come upon the initiative of the universities themselves rather than from politicians. At any rate it should be done only after a careful study of the whole situation.

This senate committee at the University of Illinois is entering therefore upon an auspicious work. It is expected that it will be engaged at least one year before a report will be prepared.

The members of the board of trustees of the university are much interested in this undertaking for they realize the need of a definition of their duties and powers and they will be only too glad to have a statement made of the relations of the board to the state government, on the one hand, and the relations of the board to the university, on the other hand.

Four leading members of the board—President William L. Abbott, Mr. Fred L. Hatch, for fifteen years a member of the board, Mrs. Mary E. Busey and Mrs. Laura B. Evans—were present at this initial meeting and gave it their hearty approval.

The fifteen members of the senate committee that is to carry on this important work during the coming year represent (either as graduates or as former instructors) some eighteen leading universities, three law schools, three technical schools, two colleges, all in the United States and five foreign universities and technical colleges. The members of the committee are the following: Professor Henry Baldwin Ward, chairman, Professor Arthur N. Talbot, Professor Herbert W. Mumford, Assistant Professor James H. Pettit, Assistant Professor Henry L. Rietz, Professor Frederick Green, Professor Ernest R. Dewsnup, Professor Julius Goebel, Mr. Charles H. Mills, director of the School of Music, Mr. Phineas L. Windsor, librarian, Professor Boyd H. Bode, Associate Professor Wm. A. Oldfather, Professor Frederick M. Mann, Professor Edward S. Thurston, Mr. Charles M. McConn, secretary.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. HENRY PICKERING BOWDITCH, professor of physiology at the Harvard Medical School for thirty-five years, eminent for his contributions to this science, died on March 13, in his seventy-first year.

DR. WILLIAM H. NICHOLS, president of the eighth International Congress of Applied Chemistry, was the guest of honor at a dinner tendered him by twenty-two members of the executive and sectional executive committees of that congress on March 7, at the Engineers' Club, New York City. The occasion for this dinner was Dr. Nichols' departure on an European trip. He will visit Italy, Austria, Germany, France, Belgium, Holland and England, and to the chemists of these countries he will personally carry invitations to the congress.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DAVID PRAIN, F.R.S., director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, has been elected a member of the Athenæum Club.

WE learn from *Nature* that Professor H. E. Armstrong, F.R.S., has been nominated the delegate of the Royal Institution at the celebration of the centenary of the Royal Frederick University of Christiania, and Sir James Crichton-Browne, F.R.S., as delegate at the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the University of St. Andrews.

PROFESSOR JOSEPH P. IDDINGS recently delivered two lectures before the geological department of the Johns Hopkins University on "Some Problems in Rock Classification."

DR. H. E. IVES, of the research department of the National Electric Lamp Association, delivered an illustrated lecture on "Color Measurement" at a well-attended open meet-