

PROFESSOR JOHANNSEN'S COLUMBIA
LECTURES

PROFESSOR JOHANNSEN's lectures on the modern principles of heredity at Columbia University, briefly announced in a previous issue of SCIENCE, will deal with the following topics:

October 13—"The Problem of Personal Characters." Old Conceptions of Heredity; Transmission of Personal Characters; Variation and Phenotypes; Selection; Galton's Law of Regression; The Study of Pure Lines; Explanation of Galton's Regression; Criticisms of the Transmission Conception; The Genotype Conception; Personal Characters Irrelevant; Constancy of Genotypical Elements; Modern Definition of Heredity.

October 20—"The Problem of Unit Factors." Homozygotes and Heterozygotes; Hybridization; Mendelism; Segregation and Combination of Genotypical Elements; Genetic Constructions; Personal Characters as Reactions of Genotypical Elements; Complicated Cases.

October 27—"Problems of Correlation and Sex." Exceptions to Mendelian Behavior; Blending Characters; Repulsion and Coupling of Genotypical Elements; Sex-limited Inheritance; Cytological Questions.

November 3—"The Problem of New Biotypes." Mutations; External Factors acting upon Genotypical Elements; Mutations and Mendelism; Acquired Personal Characters; Criticisms of Lamarckian Views; Facts and Speculations; Morphological Views *versus* Chemical Views in Genetics; Summary.

These lectures are given under the auspices of the departments of botany and zoology and will constitute the twelfth series of Columbia biological lectures. They will be given in Room 305, Schermerhorn Hall, at 4:10 P.M., and are open to the public.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

By invitation of the trustees of the New York Public Library the autumn meeting of the National Academy of Sciences will be held in its new building, Forty-second Street and Fifth Avenue, beginning on Tuesday, November 21. The first business meeting of the academy will be held on Tuesday morning at eleven o'clock and the first open scientific session will be at two o'clock in the afternoon. Titles of papers should be sent to Dr. John

S. Billings, secretary of the local committee, New York Public Library.

OWING to the epidemic of cholera, the various international congresses, geographical, agriculture and tuberculosis, will not meet in Rome this autumn. They have been postponed until the spring of 1912, the exact date not yet being determined.

AMONG the degrees given by the University of Vermont on the occasion of the installation of President G. P. Benton were doctorates of laws on Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, president of the Carnegie Foundation; Dr. E. F. Nichols, president of Dartmouth College, and Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry.

PROFESSOR A. A. MICHELSON, head of the department of physics, at the University of Chicago, has returned from the University of Göttingen, where he has been exchange professor during the summer semester.

DR. C. WILLARD HAYES, chief geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, has retired to engage in technological work in Mexico.

DR. EDWARD RENOUF, collegiate professor of chemistry at the Johns Hopkins University since 1890, has retired from active service.

DR. FRANZ MERTENS, professor of mathematics at Vienna, has retired from the active duties of his chair.

ASSOCIATES of the Harvard University Museum for five years from September 1, 1911, have been appointed as follows: Robert Tracy Jackson, S.D. (paleontology); Frank Springer, Ph.B. (paleontology); Frank Shipley Collins, A.M. (botany); Edward Phelps Allis, Jr., LL.D. (zoology); Arthur Cleveland Bent, A.B. (ornithology); William Barnes, S.B., M.D. (entomology); Frederick Blanchard (entomology); Andrew Gray Weeks, A.B. (entomology).

DR. L. R. GEISSLER, of Cornell University, has been appointed associate psychologist in the physical laboratory of the National Electric Lamp Association, Cleveland, O.

PROFESSOR LUIGI CARNERA, director of the International Latitude Stations at Carloforte and Onchavo, has been appointed professor of