

SIR JOHN G. N. ALLEYNE, Bt., known as an authority in engineering and for his interest in iron and steel research, has died in his ninety-second year.

DR. A. H. YOUNG, emeritus professor of anatomy in the University of Manchester, died on February 22.

PROFESSOR RICHARD ANDRÉE, of Leipzig, known for his work in geography and ethnography, has died at the age of seventy-seven years.

THERE is existing a vacancy in the position of chief engineer, Indian Irrigation Service, at a salary of \$4,000 per annum. The requirements of the position are technical in their nature, the work having to do with the planning and construction of all the irrigation work under the control of the Office of Indian Affairs. The government is endeavoring to find the best man available for this work, and has no particular individual in view. The qualifications and fitness for this position, based upon education, training and experience in the design and construction of engineering works, will be determined by a board of experienced engineers. Qualified persons who are interested in this position are invited to communicate with the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. The commission also announces a vacancy in the position of research bacteriologist in the biological laboratory of the Bureau of Science, Manila, Philippine Islands, at a salary of \$2,500 a year. This position is for a research bacteriologist with clinical experience, and applicants must be graduates in medicine; in addition they must show that they have specialized extensively in bacteriology and are capable of doing original research work. The work comprises investigations in tropical medicine in conjunction with the chief of the biological laboratory, who is also professor of tropical medicine in the College of Medicine and Surgery. The clinical material of the Philippine General Hospital and the hospital of the government prison will be available for study in connection with bacteriological investigation. It is stated by the Bureau of Science that opportunities exist for promotion

to higher places as vacancies occur, and at present there are six positions in this laboratory above the one in question, at salaries ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 a year. The library of the Bureau of Science and the equipment are of the very best and strictly modern, so that this position offers a unique opportunity for a young man who is ambitious to do research work.

THE treasurer of Columbia University has reported to the trustees that he had received about \$1,550,000 from the executors of the estate of the late George Crocker. Accordingly, the work of cancer research, for which Mr. Crocker gave this sum as an endowment, will begin at once. The research fund will be intrusted for administration to a board of managers, to consist of Mr. Rives, Dr. Cheesman and President Butler from the trustees, and Dean Lambert, Professors Janeway and MacCallum, of the medical faculty, together with a director of Cancer Research to be appointed.

THE Scripps Institution for Biological Research at San Diego is about to be made a part of the University of California. It was built up through the aid of Miss Ellen B. Scripps and Mr. E. W. Scripps. Control, heretofore in the hands of the San Diego Marine Biological Association, will be delegated by the University to Miss Ellen B. Scripps, Mr. E. W. Scripps, President Benjamin Ide Wheeler, of the university, and Dr. William E. Ritter, professor of zoology and director of the Scripps institution.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE Brown University endowment fund has received a gift of \$10,000 from Mr. J. B. F. Herreshoff, an alumnus, vice-president of the Nichols Chemical Company of New York. This makes \$762,417 towards the million dollar fund.

THE budget of Columbia University calls for the expenditure of \$3,159,730.28 during the year beginning July 1. It is estimated that the income for the same period will fall short of meeting the expenditure by \$132,000, de-

spite the fact that the income on a large part of the John Stewart Kennedy bequest is now available. The largest single item of expense is for educational administration and instruction, \$2,180,402. Next to this come appropriations for buildings and grounds, the sum being \$332,593. The interest on the corporate debt will amount to \$114,870, while \$100,000 will be set aside and added to the redemption fund. Stated according to the various corporations of the university, the budget is divided as follows: Columbia College, \$2,101,512.28; Barnard College, \$217,725; Teachers College, \$803,470; College of Pharmacy, \$37,020.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Oberlin trustees was held on March 13 to consider plans presented by Mr. Cass Gilbert, of New York City, regarding the location of the new buildings made possible by the completion of the half million endowment. Mr. Gilbert's plans include a science quadrangle at the northwest end of the campus. Here it is proposed to erect four large laboratories to accommodate the departments of physics, zoology, geology and botany. Part of the equipment of the botanical building will be a series of greenhouses. The department of chemistry is already comfortably housed in a separate building, Severance Chemical Laboratory.

DR. HORACE DAVID ARNOLD has been appointed dean of the Harvard Medical School to fill the place made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Henry A. Christian.

DR. TALCOTT WILLIAMS, associate editor of the *Philadelphia Press*, has been appointed director of the School of Journalism of Columbia University, founded by Mr. Pullitzer. Professor John W. Cunliffe, now head of the department of English of the University of Wisconsin, is the associate director of the school.

DR. DOUGLAS W. JOHNSON, assistant professor of physiography in Harvard University, has been appointed associate professor of physiography at Columbia University.

DR. J. E. WALLACE WALLIN has accepted a

call from the University of Pittsburgh to organize a department of clinical psychology.

DR. MURRAY S. WILDMAN, A.B. (Earlham, '93), Ph.D. (Chicago, '04), now professor of economics and commerce in Northwestern University, has been appointed professor of economics in the Leland Stanford Jr. University, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Professor Alvin S. Johnson, who goes to Cornell University at the close of the present academic year.

DR. H. W. FOOTE has been promoted to be professor of physical chemistry in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE CORN SNAKE IN NEW JERSEY

WHILE at Chatsworth, Burlington County, N. J., on July 11, 1911, I called on Mr. George Bozarth, the hotelkeeper, who buys up local snakes, excepting rattlesnakes, of which there are still a few in that part of the pine barrens. Noting that the box where he kept his reptiles contained only pine and king snakes, I inquired if he had any other species. He replied that he had but the day before thrown out a corn snake, which had died. He added he had but few of that kind brought in, but that they were to be occasionally met with in the vicinity. After some search we found the reptile, which was still in a good state of preservation and which I showed to various people living near Jones's Mill, a short distance to the east of Chatsworth, eliciting the information that the corn snake occurred in the vicinity, but was far rarer than the pine snake.

My specimen has the dorsal rows of scales weakly keeled, as described by Cope, and the color pattern also fits the description admirably. It has also been compared with living specimens in the New York Zoological Park. It is thirty-four inches in length.

In the "Amphibians and Reptiles of New Jersey," by Henry W. Fowler, published in the Annual Report of the New Jersey State Museum for 1906, I do not find the corn snake, *Coluber guttatus* Linn., recorded, nor