street, Covent Garden, the property of Lady Smyth, of Ashton Court, Somerset, who inherited them from the late Sir J. H. Greville Smyth. The finer of the two was purchased at an auction in Kent, and resold at Stevens's on April 24, 1894, for 180 guineas; it now brought 150 guineas. The second egg, which went for 140 guineas, was purchased with a number of sea-birds' eggs, many years ago, by the late owner, but nothing appears to be known of its earlier history. Both were bought by Mr. Ward. Sir J. H. Greville Smyth had another specimen of the egg (which was sold at Stevens's in 1888 for £225). This was presented by Lady Greville Smyth to the Bristol Museum. A "census" by Mr. Edward Bidwell, in connection with the Great Auk, shows that there are in existence and recorded 80 skins and 73 eggs.

THE Austrian government has purchased for about $600,000 the only two radium mines at Joachimsthal which were owned by private individuals. It is estimated that the two mines will yield annually about 3 grams of radium. Plans are under way for the development of Joachimsthal as a resort for the treatment of disease by radium.

A GIFT of $50,000 has been made by a donor who desires his name withheld for the purpose of furthering the work of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene. The same individual has agreed to give $50,000 more, on condition that the sum of $200,000 additional be secured. The *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that the purpose for which the committee was formed is the study of all matters connected with the commitment, care and after-treatment of the insane. Plans for the study of this subject have been carefully prepared, and it is intended to encourage the formation in the various states of allied but independent societies with similar aims to those of the national committee. A special subcommittee, of which Dr. William L. Russell, superintendent of the Bloomingdale Hospital, is chairman, has been formed to begin the work outlined, and an office has been opened in the Germania Life Building, New York City. Dr. Thomas W. Salmon, of the United States Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service, has been granted leave of absence by the government to undertake this work and has been engaged to conduct the studies outlined by the committee. The newly elected officers are: president, Dr. Llewellys F. Barker, of Johns Hopkins University; vice-presidents, Dr. William H. Welch, of Johns Hopkins Medical School; Dr. Charles P. Bancroft, superintendent of the New Hampshire State Hospital, Concord, N. H.; treasurer, Otto T. Bannard, president of the New York Trust Company; chairman of the executive committee, Dr. George Blumer, dean of Yale Medical School; chairman of the finance committee, Professor Russell H. Chittenden, director of Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University; secretary, Clifford W. Beers, organizer of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

BY the will of Charles Herbert Pratt, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology receives a large bequest to endow a Pratt school of naval architecture and marine engineering. The income of the estate is to accumulate until the sum of $750,000 has been reached, though it may be used at the expiration of twenty-one years.

GOVERNOR Foss has signed the bill passed by the Massachusetts legislature appropriating $50,000 annually for five years to the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The grant is to be extended for an additional five years if in the meantime the institute obtains $350,000.

AN anonymous benefactor has given $100,000 to Hamilton College for the erection of a new library building.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has received from Mr. and Mrs. William R. Peters a gift of $50,000 to establish a fund for engineering research in memory of their son William R. Peters, Jr.

A SECOND gift of $25,000 to Brown University from Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., is

announced. The endowment has now reached $815,000 toward the desired million dollars.

Appropriation bills for the College of Agriculture, Cornell University, to the amount of $907,000, of which $788,000 is immediately available, were passed by the New York legislature at its recent session and signed by Governor Dix. The Veterinary College received an appropriation of $105,000, bringing the total up to $1,012,000. Of the appropriation $329,000 is for the erection of new buildings for the use of the departments of forestry, agronomy and animal husbandry; $129,000 of this amount is not immediately available. There was reappropriated $182,000 for the completion of work already under way; $265,000 for the current expenses of the college, and $141,000 in what is known as the supply bill.

The Johns Hopkins School of Technology will be opened next fall, offering instruction in three branches, mechanical and electrical engineering and applied chemistry. A committee headed by Mr. R. Brent Keyser, president of the board of trustees, Dr. J. S. Ames, director of the physical laboratory, and Dr. William B. Clark, professor of geology, has made a trip to the educational centers of the north, where they consulted with a number of educators on plans for organizing the institution.

Dr. John Grier Hibben, hitherto Stuart professor of logic, was installed as president of Princeton University on May 11. There were present President Taft, Chief Justice White and delegates from one hundred and seventy-one educational institutions. The oath of office was administered by Justice Pitney, and President Hibben made an inaugural address on the essentials of a liberal education. Degrees were conferred on President Taft and Chief Justice White. At the luncheon speeches were made by them and by ex-President Patton, of Princeton; President Lowell, of Harvard; President Hadley, of Yale; President Butler, of Columbia, and President Schurman, of Cornell.

Dr. David L. Edsall has been elected to the Jackson professorship of clinical medicine in the Harvard Medical School to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Dr. Frederick C. Shattuck, under the retiring rules of the Massachusetts General Hospital. At the same time Dr. Edsall has been appointed to one of the two permanent medical services at that hospital. He is a graduate of Princeton and of the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. He was professor in that school until 1910, and since in the Medical School of Washington University, St. Louis.

The trustees of Cornell University have made appointments and promotions as follows: C. G. Woodbury, professor of pomology; Hugh Charles Troy, professor of dairy industry. The following assistant professors were promoted to the rank of professor: J. A. Bizzell, in soil technology; W. A. Riley, in entomology; G. W. Herrick, in entomology; H. W. Riley, in farm mechanics, and H. E. Ross, in dairy industry. The following instructors were promoted to the rank of assistant professor: L. J. Cross, in agricultural chemistry; Robert Matheson, in entomology; George C. Embody, in entomology; Arthur L. Thompson, in farm management, and Ralph H. Wheeler, in extension teaching. Albert Edward Wells, superintendent of shops of Sibley College, was appointed assistant professor of machine design.

John Harland Kelson, head of the department of applied mechanics at Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, Ohio, has been elected professor of applied mechanics at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, succeeding the late Professor E. B. Hancock.

There have been appointed in the School of Journalism of Columbia University, Dr. E. E. Slossen, of the editorial staff of *The Independent,* formerly professor of chemistry in the University of Wyoming, as associate, and Dr. Walter B. Pitkin, of the department of philosophy of the university, as associate professor.

At the University of Wisconsin, Dr. James B. Overton has been promoted from assistant professor of botany to associate professor of plant physiology, and Mr. Gilbert M. Smith

from assistant in botany to instructor in botany.

MR. E. N. ZERN, professor of coal mining at the University of Pittsburgh, has been recently appointed professor of mining engineering at the West Virginia University. Mr. George Grow has also been made assistant in the College of Engineering at the same institution.

HENRY LEIGHTON, formerly instructor in the school of mines, University of Pittsburgh, has been advanced to be assistant professor of economic geology, in charge of the departments of economic geology and ceramics.

MR. J. W. COBB, B.Sc., has been appointed to succeed Dr. Bone, F.R.S., as Livesey professor of coal gas and fuel industries at Leeds University.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE OCCURRENCE OF STIBNITE AT STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, NEVADA

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Nevada, has been often cited as an example of a metalliferous deposit in the process of formation. Becker[1] demonstrated the presence of metallic sulphides in the waters flowing from the springs and described their occurrence in an amorphous condition in the spring deposits. He was unable, however, to find any of the sulphide minerals crystallized. Some years later Lindgren[2] announced the discovery of minute crystals of pyrite and stibnite in sand and gravel that had been brought up from the bottom of a prospect shaft penetrating the sinter. It was evident from the mode of crystallization of these minerals that they had been deposited from the heated waters of the springs.

During a recent visit to the springs a grayish mud was noted in the bottom of several pools at the northern end of the sinter terrace, about a half mile from the station. On examination under a microscope it was seen that minute acicular crystals of stibnite made up a large proportion of the mud. These were usually very thin and, when perfect, shaped like the blade of a Roman sword with parallel edges and blunt point. The crystals were too minute for accurate measurement, but the forms observed were probably the brachy- and macro-pinacoids and a macrodome. The larger crystals were frequently split towards one end into a narrow fan of finer blades and many individual crystals were bent and curved. Usually the stibnite was segregated in felted balls and occasionally completely surrounded microscopic grains of sand, which had served as nuclei for the forming crystals.

The remainder of the mud was made up of diatom skeletons, fragments of chalcedonic quartz, kaolinized feldspar, and occasional flakes of mica and hornblende.

The water in the pools is very clear and limpid, with the exception of one unusually active spring where the suspended sediment is sufficient to make the water turbid. The temperature of the water in the pools in which stibnite was found ranged from 86° C. to 93° C., and averaged somewhat higher than that of the pools at the southern end of the terrace where the antimony sulphide is deposited as an amorphous precipitate.

Clark[3] cites the experiments of Doelter showing that stibnite is soluble in water heated to 80° C., especially in the presence of sodium sulphide. Melville's[4] analyses of the water of Steamboat Springs show sodium sulphide to be present. As the temperature of the springs in which stibnite was found is above that in Doelter's experiments, it is probable that the crystallization of the stibnite takes place as the heated waters approach the surface.

The complete envelopment of sand grains by the stibnite crystals presupposes free suspension in the water during the period of crystallization. The rounded form of the balls of felted crystals suggests that they formed under similar conditions. It is not unlikely that the stibnite crystallizes in the

[1] Mon. U. S. Geol. Survey, Vol. 13, 1888, pp. 342–344.

[2] *Trans. A. I. M. E.*, Vol. 36, 1906, pp. 27–31.

[3] "Data of Geochemistry," U. S. G. S. Bull. 491, 1911, p. 603.

[4] Mon. U. S. Geol. Survey, Vol. 13, 1888, pp. 347, 349.