

## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE sum of £3,000 has been left to the University of Belfast by Mrs. F. Magrath for the foundation of a "Magrath clinical scholarship," to be given for proficiency in reports of bedside cases open to fourth-year medical students.

At an extraordinary meeting of the senate of the University of London, held on July 17, resolutions were adopted, as we learn from *Nature*, approving of the Foundling Hospital site in Bloomsbury for the proposed new headquarters for the university, in accordance with the recommendations contained in a report of the Special Sites Committee, over which Sir Philip Magnus, M.P., presides. Representations are to be made to the government with the view of obtaining support for the scheme, and the Drapers' Company are to be asked whether they consider the site suitable for the proposed Senate House which they have offered to provide at an estimated cost of £60,000. Lord Haldane is also to be asked to use his influence so that offers of financial support already made to him may be available for the Foundling Hospital site. A motion to refer back the report for further consideration was negatived by a small majority.

MR. H. G. HARTMANN, Ph.D., of Columbia University, has been appointed instructor in philosophy at the University of Cincinnati.

GEORGE WEATHERWORTH STRATTON, B.A. (Colorado), Ph.D. (Ohio State, '12), has been appointed assistant professor in the department of chemistry of the University of Kansas.

DR. OTTO PORSCH has been promoted to be associate professor of botany and director of the botanical garden of the University of Czernowitz.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

## ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

MANY zoologists have long been exasperated by the changes of familiar names which result from a blind and inflexible following of the law of priority. The conditions, in fact,

are so bad that it is a frequent remark that the only fixed names are the common ones. At the Graz Zoological Congress there was an attempt to have the rules modified and to introduce a little equity and common sense into the nomenclatorial laws, but, although the movement was backed by a majority of those present, it was burked in the nomenclatorial commission.

Recently a number of Austrians (among them the well-known names of Hatschek, Steindacher, Grobben, Sturany, Graf Attems, Przibram, etc.) have formulated three proposed modifications of the laws and rules to which they wish all who favor them to subscribe. In the same line is the recent action of the German Zoological Society, which at the Halle meeting adopted three articles which are to be presented at the next (Monaco) meeting of the Zoological Congress to be held in March, 1913. The circulars of both organizations are summarized here. The undersigned will supply copies of the original circulars to all asking for them as long as the supply lasts.

The first section of the Austrian circular modifies article 25 of the International Code and provides that no work which is not binomial in character shall be considered in the nomenclature of genera and species. The second provides that when a species has once been removed from a genus it shall not be considered as the type of the genus in any later revision. This will avoid the most flagrant cause of generic changes and its adoption will allow the retention of the great majority of the familiar names.

The third section is for the government of the Commission on Nomenclature. It provides that all propositions for alterations of or additions to the Rules of Nomenclature which have received an absolute majority of the full membership of the Commission on Nomenclature (*i. e.*, 8 votes) and of the votes of those members who are present at the voting on the proposition at the meeting of the Congress, shall be submitted to the plenum of the Congress for vote.