

tenth congress at Halle, Germany, in 1915. The officers elected were: *President*, Dr. Alfred Denker, of Halle; *Vice-president*, Dr. Alexander B. Randall, of Philadelphia; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Dr. Henry O. Reik, of Baltimore.

MR. JAMES B. BRADY, of New York, has, it is reported, given the sum of \$220,000 to the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, for the establishment of a ward for the treatment of diseases of the kidney.

THE annual meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States will be held in Baltimore, from October 1 to 5, under the presidency of Surgeon Charles P. Wertebaker, U. S. Public Health Service.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE new physics building at the University of Iowa, costing \$225,000 exclusive of equipment, is now completed and will be used from the opening of the college year.

DR. SHADWORTH HOLLWAY HODGSON, the distinguished philosophical author, who died on June 3, aged eighty years, has bequeathed his philosophical laboratory to Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and his general library to Rugby School. He bequeathed £500 to each institution to defray the cost of incidental expenses.

M. E. SOLVAY will give \$2,000 a year for three years to the Laboratory of Physical Chemistry of the Berlin University to assist the researches on which Professor Nernst is engaged.

IRA D. CARDIFF, Ph.D., professor of botany in Washburn College, has resigned to accept the position of professor of plant physiology in the Washington State College at Pullman.

DR. SABRAZÈS, associate professor at the laboratory of the Faculté de médecine de Bordeaux, has been appointed professor of pathology and anatomy at the same school, in place of Dr. Coyne, who has retired.

PROFESSOR LUCIEN CAYEUX, formerly professor of general geology at the National School of Mines at Paris, has been elected to the chair of "The Natural History of Inorganic Bodies" at the Collège de France, left vacant by the death of Michel-Lévy.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A REMEDY WORSE THAN THE DISEASE

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In your issue of August 9, an article by Professor J. S. Kingsley announces various changes in the rules of zoological nomenclature proposed by certain Austrian and German zoologists, and to be submitted to the next zoological congress for approval. He inferentially asks the signatures of those interested in zoology as a backing for the proposed changes. In view of the total demoralization of zoological nomenclature which would follow the adoption of these changes (and I do not see the name of a single expert in such matters among those cited in their favor by Professor Kingsley) I feel bound to offer some comments.

I may incidentally remark that it is the past modification in a similar manner of the original British Association rules by over hasty and ill-informed action, that is responsible for ninety-nine out of every hundred of the present difficulties. Moreover, my own experience in my own field of study leads me to believe it probable that Professor Kingsley's communication greatly exaggerates the difficulties for professional naturalists of the present state of affairs. The people who find themselves in trouble are not the men who really do modern work in systematic zoology, but are men of a past generation who are annoyed by unfamiliar names, teachers relying on out-of-date text-books, some amateurs without access to recent literature and the body of anatomists, morphologists and others, not systematists, who do not like to be bothered by nomenclature at all, but wish to get names for their material without working for them or asking some one who is by way of knowing.

I would be the last to deny that there are some real difficulties, and that it would be wise to remedy them, but the authors of this outcry have not indicated the right way to bring it about. On the contrary, in some respects it is calculated to increase the difficulties tenfold, to undo good work that is already accepted by the generality of students (for I take it for granted that the new laws are intended to be *ex post facto*), and to introduce