

sented to-night and for its extraordinarily prompt completion.

The entire edition will be ready for distribution before the end of the year.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A BRONZE bust of Dr. Eugene W. Hilgard, emeritus professor in the University of California, was recently unveiled in the foyer of the new agricultural hall at the same time that the building was dedicated. The occasion was also marked by the formal investiture of Professor Thomas F. Hunt as dean of the department of agriculture.

ON Friday, the thirteenth of December, a complimentary dinner was given at the Cosmos Club to Dr. Theodore Nicholas Gill, of the Smithsonian Institution, in commemoration of the seventy-fifth year of his life and of the fifty-fifth year of his publishing activities as a naturalist. More than one hundred guests were in attendance, mainly scientific men. Admiral Stockton, U.S.N., president of the George Washington University, presided. Dr. L. O. Howard, permanent secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, acted as toastmaster. The speakers were Dr. Herbert Putnam, librarian of Congress; Dr. C. E. Monroe, professor of chemistry in George Washington University; Dr. B. W. Evermann, of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries; Dr. A. F. A. King; Dr. Hugh M. Smith, of the Bureau of Fisheries, and Dr. W. J. Holland, of the Pittsburgh Museum. Dr. Gill's remarks in reply were largely retrospective of his long residence in Washington and his connection with the Smithsonian Institution. Many letters were read from prominent naturalists and old friends of Dr. Gill. The dining room was festooned with fish-nets; aquaria were placed here and there upon the tables, and corals and sea forms of different kinds were intermingled with flowers as table decorations.

ON the evening of December 13 a dinner was given in honor of Dean W. F. M. Goss by local members of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, members of the faculty

of the College of Engineering and members of the Council of Administration of the University of Illinois. The dinner was given in recognition of the election of Dean Goss to the presidency of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

CAPTAIN ROALD AMUNDSEN will be the guest of honor at the annual banquet of the National Geographic Society on January 11, in Washington. Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary will act as toastmaster. Captain Amundsen, a gold medalist of the National Geographic Society, for his voyage through the Northwest passage, is again gold medalist of the society for the discovery of the South Pole.

AMONG the prizes offered for competition by the Académie des Sciences the most important is the Bréant prize (100,000 francs, \$20,000) for the cure of Asiatic cholera. From the income of the Bréant foundation the Paris Academy of Sciences has awarded prizes of \$500 to Dr. Carlos J. Finlay and to Dr. A. Agramonte, of Havana for their work on the rôle of the mosquito in the propagation of yellow fever.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY has conferred the degree of doctor of science on Professor Ernest William Hobson, fellow of Christ's College, and Sadlerian professor of pure mathematics at Cambridge.

THE Royal Geological Society of Cornwall has awarded its Bolitho gold medal to Mr. Geo. Barrow, for his services to Cornish geology.

MAJOR E. H. HILLS, F.R.S., has been appointed honorary director of the observatory, University of Durham.

DR. ADELINE AMES, Ph.D. (Cornell, '12), has been appointed assistant forest pathologist in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.

DR. JAMES A. HONEIJ, Cambridge, has been appointed assistant physician at the Leper Colony, Penikese Island. He will have the use of the laboratory of the Harvard Medical School and will make a study of the fifteen cases of leprosy now on the island.

PROFESSOR GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY, of Yale University, has been elected a corresponding member of the Société des Américanistes de Paris.

PROFESSOR JOHN W. HARSHBERGER, of the University of Pennsylvania, has been elected president of the Philadelphia Natural History Society, which meets at the Wagner Free Institute of Science. He has been made a member of the council of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association from Philadelphia County.

MR. FRANK M. CHAPMAN, of the American Museum of Natural History, and Mr. Louis Agassiz Fuertes, of Ithaca, will leave New York in January to explore the Columbian Andes. They will make a survey of Colombia, beginning at the Magdalena River and working eastward to the Bogota plateau, then on up to the high mountains, reaching an altitude of 14,000 feet, and down into the Orinoco basin. The work will take about three months. Its purpose is primarily to obtain material for other "habitat groups" for the museum. Mr. Fuertes will sketch the birds, the flora and the landscape features of the country.

DR. GEORGE E. HALE lectured at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on December 17 on "The Magnetic Field of the Sun."

DR. J. M. COULTER, of the University of Chicago, gave an address on "Problems in Plant Breeding," before the honorary fraternity, Delta Theta Sigma, at Ames, Iowa, on December 13. Professor N. E. Hansen, of Brookings, South Dakota, gave an address for the same society on "Siberia," on December 7, with special reference to the work of plant introduction work in the United States.

Two lectures on different phases of "Efficiency Engineering" have recently been delivered before the faculty and students of the College of Engineering of the University of Illinois. One lecture was by Mr. Harrington Emerson, of New York City; it emphasized the need of scientific study and adaptation of the human element in the industries. The second lecture was by Dean C. H. Benjamin, of the School of Engineering of Purdue University; it laid special stress on the necessary limitations of any efficiency system.

"THE Rural Problem" was the subject of an address delivered before the students of the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture last week by Dr. F. B. Mumford, dean of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture. This was the first of a series of similar lectures to be given during the winter.

By invitation of the University of Calcutta, Dr. A. R. Forsyth, F.R.S., will give a course of advanced lectures in pure mathematics early next year. His subject is "The Theory of Functions of Two or More Complex Variables."

THE Dutch sculptor, Pier Pander (Rome), has executed a bronze medallion of van't Hoff. *Nature* states that any one desiring to purchase a copy of it should send a postcard to Professor Ernst Cohen, van't Hoff Laboratorium, University, Utrecht, Holland. The medallion will then be sent by the firm entrusted with the work. If 100 copies are sold the price will be 6.50 Marks. The price will be reduced to 5.50 Marks if 200 copies can be sold. The medallion has been executed after a portrait relief in marble by Pier Pander.

DR. WILLIAM JAMES VAUGHN, who has held the chair of mathematics since 1882 and the chair of astronomy since 1895 at Vanderbilt University, died on December 17, aged seventy-eight years.

MR. SAMUEL ARTHUR SAUNDER, who while engaged as a schoolmaster, carried on important researches in astronomy, especially concerning the surface of the moon, died on December 8, aged about sixty years.

MR. PETER CAMERON, author of a work in four volumes, which appeared between the years 1882 and 1893, on "British Phytophagous Hymenoptera," died on December 1.

THERE will be no meeting of Section C (Chemistry), at the Cleveland meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The short time intervening between the decision of the American Chemical Society not to meet in affiliation with Section C this winter and the date of the meeting has made it impossible to prepare a suitable program. The meeting of Section C will, therefore, be postponed until the following year.