15, 1913. Efforts will be made to reach a decision on this appointment by June 1, 1913.

THE U. S. Civil Service Commission announces an examination for associate physicist, qualified in metallurgy, to fill a vacancy in the Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C., at a salary of $2,200 a year. There is also announced an examination for logging engineers to fill vacancies in this position in the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, at salaries ranging from $2,400 to $3,000 a year. The duties of this position will be: (1) Planning the most effective logging development of large national forest areas; (2) determining methods and costs of logging and manufacturing national forest timber and the market value of the products; (3) appraising the value of stumpage for sale; (4) inspecting and supervising the administration of timber sales.

THE Fourth International Congress on School Hygiene will be held in Buffalo, August 25 to 30. The officers are Dr. Charles W. Eliot, president; Dr. William H. Welch and Dr. Henry P. Walcott, vice presidents; Dr. Thomas A. Storey, of the College of the City of New York, secretary general, and Dr. Francis E. Fronczak, the Buffalo member of the executive committee. Delegates will attend from all the leading nations, from every college and university of note in this country and from various other educational, scientific, medical and hygienic organizations.

THE following provisional program of the Australian meeting of the British Association in 1914 is published in *The Observatory:*

July 3—Leave London by direct steamer (later by overland route).

August 4—Arrive Freemantle (for Perth), Western Australia. An advance part leaving England a week earlier than the main party will join the main party here.

August 8–12—Adelaide. Lectures; receptions; excursions.

August 13–19—Melbourne. Presidential address (first part); sectional meetings, etc.

August 20–26—Sydney. Presidential address (second part); sectional meetings, etc.

August 28–31—Brisbane. Lectures; receptions; excursions.

The earliest date of arrival in England is October 3; the route is by train to Adelaide, thence by steamer (*viâ* Suez to a Mediterranean port). Returning by steamer *viâ* Thursday Island, Port Darwin, Java, Singapore and Colombo, members will reach England about October 10–18. A party visiting New Zealand for a week will probably arrive home about the end of October.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

WILLIAM B. REED, JR., whose death occurred recently in Putnam County, N. Y., has left an estate estimated at $350,000, of which $250,000 is left to Princeton University, subject to the life interest of his wife.

BY the will of Addison Brown, ex-judge of the United States District Court, who died on April 9, Harvard University receives, $10,000; Amherst College, $5,000; Bradford Academy, $5,000, and 200 shares of United States Steel preferred are left to the New York Botanical Garden.

MR. JOHN HOWARD FORD has given $1,000 to Rutgers College for the purchase of the entomological library of the late Professor John B. Smith.

ON May 8 and 9 the University of Illinois will dedicate three new engineering buildings. These are the transportation building, the locomotive testing laboratory and the mining laboratory. A series of addresses by eminent men in the transportation and mining fields will be features of the program.

THE mayor of Dresden has published a pamphlet in which the plan for the foundation of a university in that city is described. The university is to be combined with the already existing technical and veterinary colleges. It is proposed that the city appropriate $2,500,000 (10,000,000 Marks) for this purpose, and the state a sum of $75,000 for the erection of buildings and an annual appropriation to defray the expenses of the scientific departments.

The educational bill providing for five scholarships in each assembly district of New York state has been signed by Governor Sulzer. Each holder of a scholarship will receive from the state $100 a year for four years to be applied toward the payment of the annual tuition fee charged by the college selected, which must be within the state. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of school standing, and when they are all filled there will be 3,000 students at one time receiving state aid.

The Sheldon traveling fellowships of Harvard University have been awarded in the sciences as follows: Donald Clinton Barton, Cambridge, for research in geology in Europe and Egypt during the summer; Sidney Fay Blake, for research in botany in Europe; Elmer Keiser Bolton, for research in chemistry at Berlin; Richard Maurice Elliott, for research in psychology, particularly in the psychophysics of handwriting, at Berlin and in the various psychological laboratories of Germany; Harvey Cornelius Hayes, instructor in physics, for travel in the United States, between September and February, for the purpose of observing the manufacture of alloys; Sidney Isaac Kornhauser, for research in zoology at Würzburg and at the Naples Zoological Station; Edward Hale Perry, for travel in the mining districts of the United States during the summer of 1913; Joseph Slepian, for research in mathematics in Europe, and Paul Dudley White, for research in pharmacology at London and Strassburg.

The governing body of the Royal School of Mines, which is an integral part of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, are about to appoint a new professor of metallurgy in the room of Professor W. A. Carlyle, who is resigning in order to resume his professional work.

Professor Edward L. Nichols, of the department of physics of Cornell University, has been appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Martin John Prucha, of Cornell University, has been appointed assistant professor of dairy bacteriology in the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois, and assistant chief in dairy bacteriology in the Agricultural Experiment Station. He will be associated with the new head of the dairy department, Dr. A. H. Harding.

Discussion and Correspondence

Conventional position of monoclinic crystals a question in crystallographic usage

To the Editor of Science: So much of individual preference, not to say caprice, has in the past attached itself to crystallographic nomenclature and convention that it seems desirable, before introducing further innovation, to get the opinion of as many interested persons as possible as to the ultimate usefulness of any proposed change. For this reason the writer is asking space in Science, which probably reaches more of our scientific men who come in contact with crystallography than any other single publication, in order to test an idea as to the most desirable setting of crystals belonging to the monoclinic system.

It is suggested that the ortho-axis, which is customarily placed in horizontal position, be set vertically.

The objection at once presents itself that a change from the older long-established setting would necessitate restatement of the crystallographic data concerning all monoclinic substances.

It is, moreover, possible that familiarity with the ordinary types of animals has so accustomed the mind to thinking of a single plane of symmetry in vertical position that advantage should be taken of this facility of thought in presenting to students the somewhat analogous configuration of monoclinic crystals. That this argument should not be given too much weight, however, is evidenced by the fact that beginners of their own accord not rarely place the plane of symmetry of monoclinic crystal models in horizontal position, even after they have recognized the absence of other symmetry planes.

In favor of the proposed change may be cited the following arguments:

1. The conventional usage, already prevail-