

the curriculum, or that it should be required to be taught by unwilling teachers, but it urged that the training college curriculum should be adapted to include the biological and physiological knowledge on which a eugenic ideal could be based, and that the subject should be approached from the evolutionary standpoint. Mr. Trevelyan said that the board, while unable to make sex hygiene or eugenics a compulsory subject of instruction in elementary schools or training colleges, recognized the importance of the matter, and had no wish to discourage experiments in teaching on those lines.

It is stated in the *Electrical World* that several pieces of electrical apparatus constructed by Volta during his early electrical experiments were discovered recently by Sir Henry Norman, a member of the British parliament, in a little curiosity shop in an out-of-the-way section of a small Italian town. The uncle of the shopkeeper was Volta's cook and body servant for thirty years. On his death he left much of his experimental apparatus with this servant, and it has since passed down from generation to generation. The collection comprises a cupboard full of old apparatus, a number of books, portraits, papers and letters and some personal and domestic articles. Sir Henry Norman suggests that the collection be purchased and presented to the Royal Institution to be placed with Faraday's original apparatus.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE will of the late Isaac M. Jackson, of Plymouth, Mass., among other public bequests, gives \$15,000 to Yale University.

It is reported that the medical department of Willamette University, Salem, has been merged with the medical department of the University of Oregon, located at Portland, the merger to take effect at the conclusion of the present college year. There will hereafter be but one medical college in the state. A biennial appropriation of \$45,000 has been made by the Oregon legislature for the medical department of the state university.

THE development of a health instruction bureau in connection with the Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin has been authorized by the regents. According to authorities in medicine, hygiene and vital statistics, the average duration of human life could be raised fifteen years if all the present available medical and hygienic knowledge were intelligently applied. The new health bureau will undertake to carry out to the people of Wisconsin this knowledge. Bulletins will be published on preventable diseases, infant mortality, hygiene and similar subjects. Public lectures, health institutes, etc., will also be given.

PROFESSOR ALLYN A. YOUNG, of Washington University, St. Louis, has been appointed professor of economics at Cornell University, to succeed Professor E. W. Kemmerer, now of Princeton University.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A METHOD FOR MAKING PARAFFIN BOTTLES FOR HYDROFLUORIC ACID

THE usual method of making containers for hydrofluoric acid for use in softening hard woody tissue is, either to use the large wax bottles in which the acid comes from the dealer; or ordinary glass bottles which have previously been coated on the inside with paraffin. Owing to the size of the bottles the first of these methods is inconvenient, unless a large number of blocks of wood are to be softened at one time, and the second method is often unsatisfactory, as the paraffin sometimes cracks, allowing the acid to eat through the glass. These difficulties led me to devise the following bottle which is easy to make and is more satisfactory in its operation than the above.

Ordinary cardboard mailing tubes, of the proper diameter, should be cut into lengths of about ten centimeters each. These should be thoroughly infiltrated by placing them in a vessel of melted paraffin and leaving them in the oven for a short time. After the cardboard has become infiltrated the tubes should be removed, and when the paraffin has hard-