

Herbert John Webber, bachelor of science; master of arts; doctor of philosophy; charter member Botanical Seminar, and early assistant in the department; distinguished physiologist, pathologist, and plant breeder; discoverer of motile sperms in *Zamia*; investigator of double fertilization in maize; improver of plants useful for food and clothing; member of learned societies.

Albert Fred Woods, bachelor of science; master of arts; charter member Botanical Seminar, and early assistant in the department; notable investigator; as an administrator distinguished for services in the United States Department of Agriculture; dean of a great college of agriculture; director of a famous experiment station; author and man of affairs.

THE PHYSICAL LABORATORY OF WASHINGTON AND JEFFERSON COLLEGE

THROUGH the generosity of an alumnus, \$50,000 was given to Washington and Jefferson College in June, 1911, for the erection of a physics laboratory. An attempt was made to keep within the appropriation, but the cost of erection ran up to \$51,090. It is built of cream-colored brick, and measures 60 by 90 feet. The floors are of reinforced concrete, while the walls are solid brick 22 and 18 inches thick. All the laboratories are provided with piers running down to the rock underneath the building or with slate ledges built into the wall. The first floor contains elementary laboratories, workshop, storage room, constant temperature room, and one private laboratory. On the second floor are laboratories for work in electricity and light. Besides there is a chemical laboratory, a supply and stock room, and two private laboratories for advanced work. The third floor is given over to the lecture room, with accompanying preparation and apparatus rooms, a general laboratory for work in mechanics, a dark room, and a laboratory for advanced optics. Electric power is distributed from the dynamo room on the first floor, while the battery distributing center is on the third floor. A reference library and reading room is located on the second floor. The laboratories are all supplied with gas, hot and cold waters, compressed air and exhaust; also, direct, alternating and battery currents are available in

each laboratory for power and experimental purposes.

The laboratory was dedicated on January 16, 1913, celebrating the 111th anniversary of the chartering of Jefferson College at Canonsburg. The address was made by Professor A. G. Webster on "Physical Laboratories and their Relation to the Advance of Civilization."

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

HARVARD UNIVERSITY has conferred its doctorate of science on Dr. Chas. D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

AMONG honorary degrees conferred by Yale University were doctorates of science on Dr. A. A. Noyes, professor of theoretical chemistry of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and on Dr. S. W. Williston, professor of paleontology at the University of Chicago; the doctorate of laws on Dr. John G. Hibben, president of Princeton University, and Dr. David F. Houston, secretary of agriculture, and the master of arts on Dr. Harvey Cushing, professor in the Harvard Medical School.

THE University of Pennsylvania has conferred its doctorate of laws on Dr. G. W. Goethals, chief engineer of the Panama Canal.

BROWN UNIVERSITY has conferred the degree of doctor of science on Mr. Frank M. Chapman, curator of ornithology in the American Museum of Natural History.

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY has conferred the doctorate of laws on Dr. Charles H. Judd, director of the school of education of the University of Chicago.

TUFTS COLLEGE has conferred the doctorate of science on Admiral Robert E. Peary and the degree of doctor of science on Dr. Alfred C. Lane, Pearson professor of geology and mineralogy in Tufts College.

DURING commencement week at Colorado College there was celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of President W. F. Slocum's administration. The following honorary degrees were conferred on scientific men: the degree of doctor of science on Professor T. D. A. Cockerell, of the University of Colorado,

and on Professor William Strieby, of Colorado College, and the degree of doctor of laws on H. A. Howe, of the University of Denver.

DR. JOHN M. MECKLIN has resigned the professorship of mental and moral philosophy at Lafayette College because his teaching was regarded as not in accord with the standards of the Presbyterian church.

THE first Loubat prize of \$1,000, for the best work printed and published in the English language upon the history, geography, archeology, ethnology, philology or numismatics of North America, during the quinquennial period ending July 1, 1913, has been awarded by Columbia University to George Louis Beer, of New York (A.B., 1892), for his series of works on the British Colonial System. The second prize of \$400 has been awarded to Dr. John Reed Swanton, of the Bureau of Ethnology, Washington, D. C., for his two works, one on "The Indian Tribes of the Lower Mississippi Valley," and the other, "Tlingit Myths and Texts."

THE Académie Française has awarded the Grand Prix Broquette Gonin, of the value of \$2,000, to Professor Grasset, of Montpellier. The prize is for "the author of a work, philosophic, political, or literary, which shall be judged to be of a nature to inspire the love of the true, the beautiful, and the good." Professor Grasset, who is known for his researches on the nervous system, is also the author of several works on questions of psychology, moral responsibility and the philosophy of practical life.

PROFESSOR ROBERT ANDREWS MILLIKAN, of the department of physics in the University of Chicago, was elected on May 23 president of the local chapter of Sigma Xi. Dr. Henry C. Cowles, of the department of botany, was elected vice-president of the chapter, and Dr. Rollin T. Chamberlin, of the department of geology, secretary.

DR. HENRY A. BUMSTEAD, professor of physics in Yale University, has been given leave of absence for the coming academic year.

PROFESSOR EDWARD ALEXANDER WESTERMARCK, professor of sociology in the Univer-

sity of London, has accepted an invitation to give four lectures next year at Brown University.

DR. C. S. SHERRINGTON, F.R.S., professor of physiology at Liverpool, has been appointed an additional member of the British departmental committee on the lighting of factories and workshops.

MR. A. J. MUTCHLER has been appointed assistant in the department of invertebrate zoology of the American Museum of Natural History.

MR. A. C. FRASER, of Cornell University, has come to the New York Botanical Garden to assist during the coming summer in the experimental work in plant breeding.

DR. JOHN DETLEFSEN, assistant professor of genetics in the University of Illinois, will spend the summer visiting the principal European genetic laboratories.

NELSON C. BROWN, M.F., Yale Forest School, in charge of forest utilization in the New York State College of Forestry, is spending the summer studying forest conditions in Germany and Austria.

THE Amazon expedition of the University of Pennsylvania, in charge of Dr. W. C. Farabee, arrived in Para, Brazil, last week. Here Dr. Farabee will charter a vessel for the trip in the Amazon regions, according to the original program. The Brazilian government is interested in the expedition, and is aiding the university in various ways.

DR. FRANK HARTLEY, professor of clinical surgery in Columbia University, has died at the age of fifty-nine years.

THE U. S. Civil Service Commission announces an examination for assistant in plant histology, on July 16, to fill a vacancy in this position in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, at a salary ranging from \$1,200 to \$1,620 a year.

THE material collected by the third African expedition, under Dr. W. S. Rainsford, has been received at the American Museum of Natural History. It contains specimens of

black rhinoceros, East African buffalo, eland, leopard, cheetah, antelope and monkey.

THE Tokyo Statistical Society of Japan, having recently suffered the loss by fire of a valuable library it had been thirty-three years in gathering, John Hyde, former statistician of the Department of Agriculture, has presented the society with 3,000 volumes of statistical literature to form the nucleus of a new collection. In addition to official publications of 52 countries, printed in twelve different languages, the gift includes the transactions for a long series of years of most of the leading statistical societies of the world, as well as a large number of miscellaneous books of reference. In accepting the gift, the president of the society, Baron Sakatani, former finance minister, announced that the library would be given the name of the donor.

AN ecological conference will be held at the University of Chicago during the summer quarter; the following series of illustrated lectures on "The Relation of Plants and Animals to Environment," will be given beginning July 16, when Professor Henry C. Cowles, of the department of botany, will speak on "Principles and Problems of Ecology as illustrated by Plants." On July 18 Dr. Victor E. Shelford, of the department of zoology, will discuss "Principles and Problems of Ecology as illustrated by Animals." Lecturers in the conference from other institutions will include Arthur C. Tansley, of Cambridge University, who speaks on "British Landscapes"; Professor Carl Schröter, of the University of Zurich, on "The Lake Dwellings and Lake Dwellers of Ancient Switzerland"; Professor Stephen A. Forbes, of the University of Illinois, whose subject is "Fish and their Ecological Relations," and Professor William M. Wheeler, of Harvard University, who will discuss in two lectures "The Habits of Ants."

It is difficult to realize the enormous quantities of brick used annually in Greater New York. During 1912 the consumption was over 1,000,000 thousand. The principal source of this vast quantity is the Hudson River region, which extends along both sides of the

river from New York City to Cohoes and embraces ten counties, nine in New York and one in New Jersey. Other sources of supply are the Raritan River region of New Jersey and the Connecticut region. The year 1912 was one of unusual interest in the Hudson River region. It opened with an increasing demand for brick, and the price for common brick was \$7 a thousand, compared with \$4.25 in 1911. For several years the use of cement or concrete in construction appeared to be displacing brick to some extent, but owing to the strong "back to brick" movement the year 1912 saw in the New York market a change favoring brick as the best building material for many purposes. Influences that have contributed to this change are the failure of some concrete buildings, the advertising campaign carried on by the brickmakers, and the improved quality of the Hudson River brick. The average price was the highest since 1906. The marketed product in 1912 was larger than that of 1911 and would probably have been still greater but for the scarcity of labor, especially at Haverstraw, and the strike among the brickmakers in the Newburgh district. The strike, however, was of short duration, but the scarcity of labor drawn away by large construction enterprises, such as the Catskill aqueduct, railroad extensions and subway operations, was a serious drawback to the Hudson River brickmakers in 1912. This condition was so serious that the operators resorted to night work and rainy-day work in loading barges and imported laborers from the South. An important development during the year was a large increase in the use of Raritan River brick in New York City, which has for some years been drawing on the Raritan River region. In 1912 the demand for this brick was very much greater than ever before. On the whole the year may be considered one of prosperity. The demand was good, prices were high, the mild weather toward the end of the year permitted shipments to its very close, and while the marketed product was not the largest recorded, it was considerably larger than that of 1911. The statistics gathered by Jefferson Middleton, of the United States Geological

Survey, show that the number of brick marketed in the Hudson River region in 1912 was 1,019,259,000, valued at \$5,850,770, or \$5.74 a thousand, compared with 926,072,000 brick in 1911, valued at \$4,717,633, or \$5.09 a thousand. This was an increase in 1912 of 93,187,000 brick and of \$1,133,137 in value. The number of operating firms reporting in 1912 was 126. As in other branches of the clay-working industry, the number of active firms reporting is not equivalent to the number of yards, for many firms have more than one yard.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

WELLESLEY COLLEGE has received an anonymous gift of \$100,000.

IN addition to \$250,000 appropriated for a building for the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University, the legislature appropriated \$50,000 for the maintenance and development of the work for the coming year. Last year through the kindness of Mrs. Russell Sage, who gave something over \$80,000, a Division of Agriculture was organized at Syracuse University. This division is giving agricultural instruction for teachers and general work for students of other colleges. These courses in agriculture are given without state or national aid.

GOVERNOR SULZER has signed a bill making the New York American Veterinary College, allied with New York University, the state veterinary college for the eastern part of the state. No appropriation of money was made in the bill.

SOPHIE NEWCOMB COLLEGE, the woman's department of Tulane University, will shortly erect on its new site on Audubon boulevard, adjoining the university proper, four new buildings to cost \$600,000.

It is announced that the executors of the late Sir J. Wernher, Bart., have completed the allocation of the £100,000 bequeathed to them to be devoted to charitable and educational purposes. £35,000 has been allotted to charitable and educational purposes in South Africa, and £65,000 to some 150 different institutions in Great Britain. The grants for

scientific and educational purposes include: to the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, £5,000; the Imperial Service College, Windsor, £2,500; the London School of Tropical Medicine, £1,500.

THE school of medicine of the University of Pittsburgh arranged a medical program in connection with the commencement week exercises. Special clinics were arranged at the hospitals affiliated with the university, as well as laboratory demonstrations at the medical school building on the university campus.

THE Rush Medical College, Chicago, which has for a number of years strongly recommended a fifth clinical year as interne in a hospital, or its equivalent, has made this compulsory for the class entering in 1914. This fifth year is to be spent either in graduate work in one of the departments of the college or as an interne in an approved hospital under the constant supervision of the college faculty.

A GREAT increase in the enrollment has marked the progress of the college of agriculture of the University of Illinois during the past few years. In 1895-96 there was a total enrollment of 14 students; in 1900-01, 159 students; in 1909-10, 660 students and in the present year, 1912-13, there was a total number of 905. The college of agriculture is graduating an ever-increasing number of men. The larger percentage of these graduates are now engaged in practical agriculture. This is shown by statistics being gathered at the present time. Out of ninety-three men graduating this year, forty-four expect to go into actual farming operations; ten expect to enter experimental work at the University of Illinois; ten to teach; eleven will do graduate work; five are going to work for large implement companies, and the rest will be employed in work more or less connected with agriculture.

DR. L. H. BAILEY has resigned the directorship of the New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell University.

DR. PAUL G. WOOLLEY, dean of the medical department of the University of Cincinnati, has resigned this office but retains his professorship.