

a very slight widening of the back of the parietal region to remedy a defect which was pointed out to him by Professor Elliot Smith when he first studied the brain-cast. The capacity of the brain-case thus remains much the same as he originally stated, and he maintains that Professor Keith has arrived at a different result by failing to recognize the mark of the superior longitudinal sinus on the frontal region and by unduly widening that on the parietal region. It is understood that Mr. Dawson and Dr. Woodward will offer an account of the season's work to the Geological Society at an early meeting, and Professor Elliot Smith will include a detailed study of the brain-cast of *Eoanthropus* in a memoir on primitive human brains which he is preparing for the Royal Society.

LEONARDO DA VINCI left a number of anatomical drawings with descriptions which are now in the Royal Library at Windsor, after lying hidden in the Ambrosia Library, Milan, for centuries. The *British Medical Journal* states that photographs of these, with English and German translations of the descriptions, have been prepared by Ove C. L. Vangensten, A. Fonahn and H. Hopstock, and published by Jacob Dybwad, of Christiania. Dr. Hopstock is prosector of anatomy in the University of Christiania, where Dr. Fonahn is professor of the history of medicine, and Mr. Vangensten, professor of Italian. The first volume ("Quaderni d'Anatomia," I.), published in 1911, contains 13 folios, 22 pages in facsimile (collotype), and 70 designs. The subjects illustrated are respiration, the alternating motions of the diaphragm and the muscles of the abdomen, together with the passage of the food through the alimentary canal, and the heart. A special volume on the heart ("Quaderni d'Anatomia," II.), containing 24 folios, 33 pages in facsimile (collotype) and 240 designs, was published in 1912. The third volume, which appeared in September of the present year, consists of 12 folios, 20 pages in facsimile (collotype), dealing with the organs of generation. The remainder of the hitherto unpublished Windsor papers will follow, one volume appearing annually in Sep-

tember. The whole work will comprise six volumes. The Professor Voss prize has been awarded to the editors by the University of Christiania.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THERE is under construction at Smith College a biological hall for which the trustees have appropriated \$140,000. Hitherto the departments of physics, zoology and botany have done most of their work in Lilly Hall. With the completion of the new building this hall will be left entirely to physics.

A SECOND gift of \$10,000 from Mr. Melville H. Hanna, to Union College, is announced.

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE has received \$90,000 for a chapel from a donor whose name is withheld.

AN anonymous friend has presented to the University of Leeds £10,000 for the erection of a school of agriculture.

By the will of the late Henry Follett Osler the University of Birmingham is to receive the sum of £10,000, with a prospective share in the residuary estate.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY MEDICAL COLLEGE opened on October 1, with an enrollment as follows: For the degree of M.D.: first year, 36; second year, 32; third year, 20; fourth year, 20; special students (work not leading to the degree M.D.), 5; for the degree of Ph.D., 2; for the degree of M.A., 2; making a total of 117. All students now registered, with the exception of those pursuing the combined seven years course leading to the degrees of A.B. and M.D., are graduates of arts or science, or doctors of medicine doing advanced work.

PROFESSOR WILLARD C. FISHER, whose forced resignation from the chair of economics and sociology at Wesleyan on the alleged ground of his views on Sabbath observance will be remembered, has been appointed lecturer on economics at Harvard University for the current academic year.

THE trustees of The Ohio State University have made the following promotions: Charles St. John Chubb, Jr., C.E., to be professor of architecture; Dana James Demorest, B.S.C., to be professor of metallurgy; Harry Clifford Ramsower, B.S.C., to be professor of rural

engineering; Carl Bertram Harrop, E.M., to be assistant professor of ceramic engineering; Aubrey Ingerson Brown, M.E., to be instructor in mechanical engineering. Mr. Franklin Wales Marquis, M.E., of the University of Illinois, has been appointed professor of steam engineering to succeed Mr. E. A. Hitchcock, M.E., who resigned last spring to accept a position as sales engineer with E. W. Clark & Co.

MR. G. D. HORTON, M.S. (Yale, '13), has been appointed instructor in bacteriology in the Oregon Agricultural College.

MISS E. M. PINNEY, formerly instructor in zoology, at the University of Kansas, has been appointed demonstrator in biology in Bryn Mawr College, to succeed Dr. Harriet Randolph, who is at present in Europe.

THE following appointments have been made at the University of Birmingham: Mr. L. J. Wills, assistant lecturer in geology and geography; Mr. David Brunt, lecturer in mathematics (to succeed Mr. S. B. McLaren); Dr. C. L. Boulenger, reader in helminthology; Mr. H. G. Jackson, assistant lecturer in zoology.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### LABELING MICROSCOPIC SLIDES

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Two things are absolutely essential to properly prepared microscopic slides; these are permanent labels and cleanliness. I have been interested in two notes that have recently appeared in SCIENCE, namely, one by Zea Northrup in the July 25 issue and, the other, by Ernest S. Reynolds, in the September 12 number. The paper labels usually affixed to the slides of a study or loan collection soon become soiled and the data more or less effaced. To obviate this, several years ago I commenced to use small and very thin paper slips upon which the data were written in "Higgin's Waterproof (Black) India Ink," placed under the cover-glass at one of the angles and in this way mounted with the specimens. I have observed this method in use at several institutions. This technical procedure permits dipping of the slides into water and their subsequent clean-

ing and polishing with a soft cotton cloth. The covering of the India ink label with balsam and cover-glass, as recommended by Reynolds, is an excellent method. I do not think it wise to trust to "merely printing or writing the necessary description upon the slide with India ink" as recommended by Northrup. A person can not always be sure that the writing surface is free from oily matter. Disappointment frequently attends this procedure. For some time I have used the following method: The essential data are neatly written or printed across one end of the slide as close as possible to the cover-glass and, after the ink has dried, a thin layer of Canada balsam in xylol—two to one—is painted with a camel's hair brush across the slide over the label. After the balsam has become thoroughly hardened the slide can be dipped into cold water and cleaned with a soft cotton cloth, as above. Care should at all times be taken to avoid having the slides come in contact with alcohol or xylol. Should such a thing happen the surface of the balsam can be restored by reapplication of the thin balsam. The first slide of a series or set should bear a paper label as well as the ink inscription.

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##### A NORTHERLY RECORD FOR THE FREE-TAILED BAT

ON the morning of August 15, 1913, I picked up a live male free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomus mexicanus* Saussure) on the pavement on the main business street of Lincoln, Nebraska. It was huddled against the wall at the corner of what is probably the most brilliantly lighted building on the street where it was presumably attracted by the illumination the previous night. The specimen is now in the author's collection where it has been seen by Mr. Vernon Bailey, of the U. S. Biological Survey, who has verified the determination.

This bat normally occurs in the United States in the Lower Sonoran fauna of Texas,