

capacity of about three million gallons per day. An artesian well on the grounds near the river offers a limited flow of hard water, which is not stored.

The grounds comprise sixty acres of cleared and wooded land, mostly with a gentle slope, and extending from the banks of the river to the top of the bluffs. The river frontage is about a quarter of a mile.

The station has two launches and a number of rowboats, with one portable Evinrude motor. A fishing crew is engaged almost daily. Opportunities are, therefore, offered for collecting in the various parts of the river or in the lakes and slues which are found in the islands and the lowlands of the Illinois shore. Interesting aquatic environments are also presented by the ponds on the station grounds, which are generally very rich in plankton.

The laboratory will not only be used by the permanent staff and associates of the bureau engaged on special problems, but it is desired to extend the facilities of the institution to other investigators desiring to study problems for which the conditions at Fairport may be particularly favorable.

The laboratory is furnished with the ordinary glassware and scientific apparatus. No charge will be made for occupancy of tables or dormitory rooms, but the mess will be operated upon a cooperative plan, each participant sharing in the expense. Further conditions and information will be supplied upon request.

Since only a limited number can be accommodated in the first season, it is requested that applicants for tables address the Commissioner of Fisheries, Washington, D. C., or the director of the biological station, Fairport, Iowa, as early as practicable. Investigators requiring the use of special or unusual apparatus should communicate particularly with the director, in order that they may be informed as to the special equipment of the station related to their needs.

ROBERT E. COKER,
Director

March 2, 1914

4 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

IN the spring of 1913 a circular letter, signed by most of the full professors of the Johns Hopkins University, was sent to members of the faculties of nine other universities, inviting them to consider the advisability of the formation of a national association of university professors, and to send delegates to an informal conference for the discussion of the matter. The letter contained the following statement of the reasons actuating the signers of it:

The reasons which seem to demand the formation of such an association are fairly evident. The university teacher is professionally concerned with two distinct, though related, interests. Both of these interests can be furthered by cooperation and the interchange of views, and therefore, by organization; for only one of them has suitable organization yet been attained. As scholar and investigator the teacher is interested in the advancement of learning and the diffusion of knowledge in his specialty; and cooperative effort for these ends is already effectively organized, through our numerous technical societies and the several sections of the American Association. But the university professor is also concerned, as a member of the legislative body of his local institution, with many questions of educational policy which are of more than local significance; he is a member of a professional body which is the special custodian of certain ideals, and the organ for the performance of certain functions essential to the well-being of society; and concerning the character, efficiency, public influence and good repute of this body he can not be indifferent. It is on this side that there is need for more definite and more comprehensive organization. The general purposes, therefore, of the contemplated association would be to promote a more general and methodical discussion of the educational problems of the university; to create means for the authoritative expression of the public opinion of the profession; and to make possible collective action, on occasions when such action seems called for.

A favorable response was received in all cases, and statements expressing the belief in the desirability of the formation of such an association were drawn up and signed by members of the faculties of most of the uni-

versities addressed. The proposed conference was held in Baltimore on November 17, 1913, on the eve of the annual meeting of the National Academy of Sciences. It was attended by eighteen delegates, from the following universities: Clark (Professors Taber and Webster); Columbia (Professors Cattell and Dewey); Cornell (Professors Bennett and Nichols); Harvard (Professor Minot); Johns Hopkins (Professors Ames, Bloomfield, Lovejoy, Morley); Princeton (Professors Capps, Kemmerer, Warren); Wisconsin (Professors Cole, Marlatt), and Yale (Professors Harrison, Mendel). After prolonged discussion of the whole subject it was unanimously voted that the organization of the proposed association should be undertaken; and the chairman, Professor Bloomfield, was authorized to appoint a committee, representing the principal subjects of study and the principal universities, (a) to determine what professors, or classes of professors, should be invited to attend a meeting, to be held at some time during the current year, for the formal establishment of the association; (b) to determine the time and place of this meeting, and (c) to prepare a draft of a constitution. After some unavoidable delays, the chairman of the conference has announced the composition of the committee as follows: Astronomy, George C. Comstock (Wis.); Biological Sciences, E. G. Conklin (Princeton), R. G. Harrison (Yale) and Theodore Hough (Virginia); Classical Philology, E. Capps (Princeton); Chemistry, Julius Stieglitz (Chicago); Economics, M. A. Aldrich (Tulane), Alvin S. Johnson (Cornell); Education and Psychology, John Dewey (Columbia); Engineering, Guido Marx (Stanford); English, J. W. Bright (Johns Hopkins), C. M. Gayley (California); Geology, W. H. Hobbs (Mich.); Germanic Philology, M. G. Learned (Penn.); History, W. E. Dodd (Chicago); Law, Roscoe Pound (Harvard); Mathematics, C. J. Keyser (Columbia), Henry Taber (Clark); Medicine, C. S. Minot (Harvard); Oriental Languages, Morris Jastrow (Penn.); Philosophy, A. O. Lovejoy (Johns Hopkins), Frank Thilly (Cornell); Physics, C. E. Mendenhall (Wis.); Political Science,

Isidor Loeb (Missouri); Romance Philology, F. M. Warren (Yale). Professor Dewey has consented to act as chairman.

In selecting the members of this committee of twenty-five, the chairman of the conference has, of course, had in mind three criteria: the representation of the principal universities, the representation of the several sciences, and the special qualifications of individuals for service upon such a committee. With very few exceptions those first asked to serve upon the committee have readily agreed to do so. In two or three instances, however, it has been necessary to leave important universities thus far unrepresented, owing to the inability of the professors first invited to serve, and the inexpediency of further delaying public announcement of the committee's membership until other representatives of those institutions could be selected and notified, and their acceptances be received. The committee may be expected to begin at once the consideration of the questions submitted to it; and it will doubtless be able to announce the date of the contemplated meeting, and its general proposals with respect to the association, within a few months.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE College of Physicians of Philadelphia, the American Philosophical Society, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the Jefferson Medical College and the Academy of Natural Sciences have arranged a memorial in honor of the late Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, to be held on the evening of March 31, in the Hall of the College of Physicians. Addresses will be delivered by Dr. Talcott Williams, New York City; Dr. William H. Welch, Baltimore, and Mr. Owen Wister, Philadelphia.

DR. CHARLES W. ELIOT, president emeritus of Harvard University, celebrated his eightieth birthday on March 20.

A PORTRAIT of Dr. James Ward, professor of mental philosophy at the University of Cambridge, by Mr. Ambrose McEvoy, has been presented to the university.