

Mr. C. A. Buckmaster—"Free-place" system. 10

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES COMMITTEE

Mr. W. Whitaker—For preparation of report. 25

Total .....£968

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. EDMUND B. WILSON, Da Costa professor of zoology, gave the annual address at the opening exercises of Columbia University on September 29, his subject being "Science and Education."

DEAN FREDERICK J. WULLING, of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota, was chosen president of the American Pharmaceutical Association, which held a session in San Francisco in August.

DR. THEOBOLD SMITH, director, and other members of the staff of the Rockefeller Institute for the Study of Animal Diseases which is being built near Princeton at a cost in the neighborhood of a million dollars, have started their work in a suite of four rooms loaned by the biology and geology departments of Princeton University. The buildings of the institute will be on a tract of 480 acres, lying near the Walker-Gordon farms and are expected to be completed within a year.

DR. A. F. BLAKESLEE, professor of botany and genetics, has taken up his work as plant geneticist at the Carnegie Institution Station for Experimental Evolution at Cold Spring Harbor, where he succeeds Dr. George H. Shull, who has become professor of botany at Princeton University.

THE Field Museum of Natural History announces the appointment of Dr. Berthold Laufer as curator of anthropology to succeed Dr. George A. Dorsey, resigned.

MR. W. G. CRAIB, assistant for India in the Kew Herbarium, has been appointed assistant to the professor of botany in the University of Edinburgh. Mr. J. Hutchinson succeeds Mr. Craib at the Royal Gardens.

R. A. JEHLE has been appointed plant pathologist of the Florida Plant Board. His work will be investigation of citrus canker, a serious disease of citrus fruits, which was

probably introduced into the United States from Japan a few years ago. His address will be Homestead, Florida.

PROFESSOR W. S. FRANKLIN will make a tour of the universities and technical schools of the south and west during the coming fall and winter; and he offers to give, in connection with this trip, a number of theoretical and experimental lectures. Professor Franklin may be addressed during October and November at Columbia University, New York City.

AT the forty-third annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, held in Rochester, N. Y., September 6 to 10, under the presidency of Professor William T. Sedgwick, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the following officers were elected: President, Dr. John F. Anderson, director of the hygienic laboratory of the United States Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.; first vice-president, Dr. George W. Goler, health officer of Rochester, N. Y.; second vice-president, Dr. Charles J. Hastings, medical officer of health, Toronto, Canada; third vice-president, Dr. Omar Gillette, of Colorado Springs, Colo.; treasurer, Dr. Lee K. Frankel, of New York (reelected); secretary, Professor Selskar M. Gunn, of Boston (reelected). The following were elected to honorary membership in the association: Surgeon-General William C. Gorgas, United States Army; Dr. Stephen Smith, of New York, a member of the State Board of Charities; Dr. Frederick Montizambert, of Ottawa, director general of public health of the Dominion of Canada; and Dr. Henry D. Holton, of Brattleboro, Vt.

PROFESSOR HENRY R. FRANCIS, of the Landscape Extension Service of the College of Forestry at Syracuse, is completing a field study of the 300-mile highway which is being planned by the Massachusetts Forestry Association and which will run from Boston westward nearly to the New York line and then turn back eastward to Cambridge.

NELSON C. BROWN, professor of forest utilization in the State College of Forestry at Syracuse, has returned from a 6,000-mile trip

through the National Forests of the Rockies and Cascades.

DR. DAVID MARINE, of the H. K. Cushing Laboratory of Experimental Medicine, Western Reserve University, has returned from Compiègne, France.

MISS MARY C. BLISS, instructor in botany in Wellesley College, has been granted a year's leave of absence for graduate work at Radcliffe College.

MR. H. M. JENNISON, assistant professor of botany and bacteriology in Montana State College, will spend the year in research work in the Missouri Botanical Garden.

A MEMORIAL to the late Dr. Hugh Dewar was unveiled in the Abercorn Public Gardens, Portobello, Edinburgh, on September 5. It bears the following inscription: "This fountain has been erected in remembrance of Dr. Hugh Dewar, Portobello, by his grateful patients and numerous friends, who deplore the loss in the prime of manhood of a kind friend and skilful and beloved physician. His quiet charity was known to the needy. 1866-1914."

DR. WILLIAM WATSON, from 1865 to 1873 professor of mechanical engineering and descriptive geometry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, since 1884 recording secretary of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, has died in his eighty-second year.

HOWARD A. NELSON, a graduate student at the University of Minnesota, was drowned while engaged in work on the state and federal geological survey near Ely.

PROFESSOR KUNCKEL, docent for chemistry at Rostock, has died at the age of forty-seven years.

By the will of the late Dr. Dudley P. Allen, formerly professor of surgery in the Western Reserve University, \$200,000 has been set aside as a permanent endowment fund for the Cleveland Medical Library.

THE library of the University of Washington has acquired a complete set of the *Philosophical Magazine* from its establishment in 1798 at a cost of approximately \$1,000.

THE war is responsible for the disappearance of two medical papers, the *Allgemeine Wiener medizinische Zeitung*, established sixty years ago, and the *Prager medizinische Wochenschrift*, established forty years ago.

THE awards granted to the Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., at the Panama-Pacific Exposition aggregate four "grand prix," or highest awards, one medal of honor and one gold medal. The award in each case was the highest prize granted. The four classes in which Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. received the "grand prix" are optical instruments, balopticons, engineering instruments and range finders. The first division, called optical instruments, covers seven classes and covers the company's ophthalmic lenses, microscopes, parabolic and Mangin mirrors, field glasses, microtomes and magnifiers. A medal of honor was awarded Bausch & Lomb photomicrographic apparatus; their photographic lenses received the gold medal.

THE New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse has received a valuable gift of 120 mounted game and water birds, and 21 mounted mammals from Congressman Peter G. Gerry, and his brother, Robert L. Gerry, both of Providence, Rhode Island. This collection was secured for the college through the interest and help of Dr. William T. Hornaday, director of the Zoological Garden at Bronx Park. Dr. Charles C. Adams, forest zoologist of the college, had presented to Dr. Hornaday earlier the urgent need of the college for mounted birds and mammals. Soon after this Mr. Robert L. Gerry wrote to Dr. Hornaday about the disposal of the Gerry game collection, as it will be called by the college, and Dr. Hornaday recommended that the collection be turned over to it. Such a collection of mammals and birds is of very great value in training foresters, not only to enable them to know at sight the important game and water birds and forest mammals, but also as an aid to an appreciation of their relation to the forest. In some localities in the west the Federal Forest Service wardens are required also to be game wardens. The administrator of forest lands

needs not only to be intelligent on game if he is to execute the laws properly, but he needs furthermore to know the influence of game and fur-bearing animals upon forests.

CURATOR W. C. MILLS, of the Ohio Archeological and Historical Society, and also of the Archeological Museum of the Ohio State University, has this summer been excavating a mound situated on the farm of State Senator W. D. Tremper. It has yielded hundreds of valuable specimens, which show remarkable skill in the art of graving and carving. In addition, there is evidence that here in this mound communal or tribal relations existed, for instead of numerous individual graves, one common grave served for the receptacle for hundreds of bodies. There are many other characteristics, which make this mound stand out. For instance, it was found that a wooden palisade had been erected around it. It was also discovered that the builders worked in quartz and several specimens were obtained. The Tremper mound is in form that of an animal enclosed by an embankment or wall. It is 250 feet long, with an average width of 50 feet and a maximum height of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet. Because of its resemblance to an animal it early became known as the Elephant Mound, although recent exploration has proved this formation to be incident to its use and construction and not intended to represent an animal.

PROBABLY the most accurate method for the determination of the value of the strength of an electrical current in absolute measure is by means of the Rayleigh current balance, in which the current to be measured is passed in series through two parallel circular coils of unequal radii, one of which is suspended from the beam of a balance. The distance between the planes of the coils is varied until the force of attraction between the two coils is a maximum, and the value of the force is obtained by adding weights to the other arm of the balance until its equilibrium is restored. Since the maximum force obtainable depends on the ratio of the radii of the coils alone, and not on their individual dimensions, it is only necessary to determine further the ratio of the radii

of the coils, and this may be done with great accuracy by electrical means. The constant of the instrument, that is, the maximum force per unit current for the coils in question, has been obtained in the past by interpolation between values of the force, calculated for various assumed distances of the coils, in the neighborhood of the critical value for which the force is a maximum. For, although the general formulas of Maxwell and Nagaoka give the value of the force for any two given coils, at any assumed distance with great accuracy, no formula has been heretofore published for calculating at what distance the force becomes a maximum. To supply this lack there is derived in a paper just published by the Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce, entitled "The Calculation of the Maximum Force between Two Parallel, Coaxial, Circular Currents," a formula which gives the critical distance as a function of the ratio of the radii. The latter part of the paper is devoted to the development of methods for facilitating the calculations. The formulas are illustrated by numerical examples and tables, and the new formulas are shown to give results in agreement with those derived by more indirect and laborious method of interpolation. Copies of the publication, Scientific Paper No. 255, may be obtained on request of the Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

A COLONIAL mansion at 4037 Pine Street, Philadelphia, modeled after Washington's Mount Vernon home, has been purchased by the Mask and Wig Club, the University of Pennsylvania dramatic organization. After extensive alterations it will be turned over to the university as a gift to be used as the official residence of Pennsylvania provosts. The value of the gift exceeds \$75,000.

PROFESSOR CHARLES A. KOFOID, professor of zoology, University of California, is on sabbatical leave for the current academic year. He is spending the first half of it in research work in Berkeley and will travel in the Orient