

perature rooms and other features of a modern laboratory of natural science. The entire space of the building will be divided almost equally between the departments of botany and zoology. Commodious offices and a number of special rooms for the use and comfort of the occupants will be provided. The building will be 235 feet long and 75 feet wide in its widest part. The center of the building facing south will open upon the space reserved for greenhouses. The building itself is to be of brick, hard burnt, of a reddish brown color, selected with a certain roughness and bloom on the surface. The mortar joints will be wide and raked. The trimming will be of Bedford stone. This material will also form the facing of the building as high as the base of the windows on the first floor.

The building itself is to be of the steel wall-bearing type and will be thoroughly fireproof. In this type of structure the masonry of the walls carries part of the weight of the frame while the frame itself supports the floors, partitions and roof.

In harmony with all the new buildings of the university the building will be of classic architecture. It will depend for its beauty on graceful lines and symmetry rather than on expensive ornamentation. In harmony with Dr. Bessey's character we shall try to make the building just as permanent as the building skill of the times through the use of brick, steel and concrete will permit. It ought to stand for 500 years at least. Further, in keeping with Dr. Bessey's character it will be attractive without ostentation, built for permanence and usefulness rather than show.

Aside from the sentiment connected with its erection it will be a building much needed by the university. Botany and zoology have never had adequate quarters here. This will house them in a way worthy of a great university. While these departments will have considerably more space than they have at present, we are not building large enough to care for their growth for many years to come. When the number of students of botany becomes too large for the new quarters, we can build a separate building for zoology, leaving the entire space of the Bessey building to botany.

The building will cost approximately \$200,000 when completed and finished. The university considers itself fortunate in the fact that the lowest bid was made by a firm which has not only the reputation of doing excellent work but of doing its work promptly. This firm agrees to complete the general construction in 120 working days. Assuming, then, that there is not too much cold and stormy weather during the spring and summer following, there should be no difficulty in having the building ready for use at the beginning of the next school year. The ground is now ready so that the excavation may begin at any time.

For a few hundred dollars a beautiful memorial tablet could be placed in the principal hall of the new building. Some of the former students of Dr. Bessey have attained wealth. Would not some one of them like to volunteer to place a memorial worthy of his beloved teacher where the thousands of students that will throng this building in the years to come may look upon his features cast in enduring bronze by some skilled workman after the clay model of some great artist? The regents of the university will be pleased to accept and place in a suitable place such a tribute.

S. AVERY

THE COLUMBUS MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE sixty-eighth meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the fourteenth of the "Convocation Week" meetings, will be held in Columbus, Ohio, from December 27, 1915, to January 1, 1916. Hotel Chittenden will be the headquarters.

The council will meet on Monday morning, December 27, and each following morning.

The opening general session of the association will be held at 8 o'clock P.M. on Monday, December 27, in the university chapel of university hall. The meeting will be called to order by the retiring president, Dr. Charles William Eliot, who will introduce the president of the meeting, Dr. William Wallace Campbell. Addresses of welcome will be made by President W. O. Thompson, of the Ohio

State University, and others to be announced, to which President Campbell will reply. The annual address of the retiring president, Dr. Charles W. Eliot, will then be given on "The Fruits, Prospects and Lessons of Recent Biological Science." Following the adjournment of the general session there will be a reception in the library, tendered by the Ohio State University, to members of the association and affiliated societies, with accompanying ladies.

The sections of the association and the special societies will hold their meetings through the week. Addresses of retiring vice-presidents of the association are as follows:

Vice-president H. S. White, before the Section of Mathematics and Astronomy: "Poncelet Polygons."

Vice-president Anthony Zeleny, before the Section of Physics: "The Dependence of Progress in Science on the Development of Instruments."

Vice-president F. R. Lillie, before the Section of Zoology: "The History of the Fertilization Problem."

Vice-president G. P. Clinton, before the Section of Botany: "Botany in Relation to American Agriculture."

Vice-president E. E. Rittenhouse, before the Section of Social and Economic Science: "Upbuilding American Vitality: the Need for a Scientific Investigation."

Vice-president R. M. Pearce, before the Section of Physiology and Experimental Medicine: "The Work and Opportunities of a University Department for Research in Medicine."

Vice-president P. H. Hanus, before the Section of Education: "City School Superintendents' Reports."

Vice-president L. H. Bailey, before the Section of Agriculture: "The Forthcoming Situation in Agricultural Work (Part II.)."

The following societies have indicated their intention to meet in Columbus during Convocation Week in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science:

American Society of Naturalists.—Meets on Thursday, December 30. Will hold symposium with American Society of Zoologists on Recent Advances in Fundamental Problems of Genetics. Annual dinner, same date, at 7 P.M., with presidential address by F. R. Lillie. Secretary, Dr. B. M. Davis, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

American Society of Zoologists.—Meets in joint session with Section F, A. A. A. S. Will hold symposium with American Society of Naturalists on Thursday, December 30, as above announced. President, William A. Locy. Secretary, Dr. Caswell Grave, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

Entomological Society of America.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 29, 30 and 31. Annual public address by Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt. Wednesday, December 29, at 8 P.M. President, V. L. Kellogg. Secretary, Professor Alex. D. MacGillivray, 603 West Michigan Ave., Urbana, Ill.

American Association of Economic Entomologists.—Meets on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 27 to 29. President, Glenn W. Herrick. Secretary, Albert F. Burgess, Melrose Highlands, Mass.

American Physical Society.—Meets on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, December 28, 29 and 30, in joint session with Section B. President, Ernest Merritt. Secretary, Dr. Alfred D. Cole, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

Botanical Society of America.—Meets on Monday to Friday, December 27 to 31. Will hold joint meeting with Section G, A. A. A. S., on Tuesday afternoon, December 28, and with American Phytopathological Society on Thursday afternoon, December 30. Annual dinner for all botanists will be held Wednesday evening, December 29, at Hotel Hartman. President, John M. Coulter. Secretary, Harley H. Bartlett, Botanical Laboratory, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

American Phytopathological Society.—Meets on Tuesday to Friday, December 28 to 31. Will hold joint meeting with Section G, A. A. A. S., on Tuesday, December 28, and with Botanical Society of America on Thursday, December 30. President, H. H. Whetzel. Secretary, Dr. C. L. Shear, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Botanists of the Central States.—Will hold no separate meeting, but will present its papers in connection with Section G, A. A. A. S. Secretary, Dr. Edward A. Burt, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo.

Society for Horticultural Science.—Meets on Tuesday to Thursday, December 28 to 30. President, W. L. Howard. Secretary, Professor C. P. Close, College Park, Maryland.

Association of Official Seed Analysts of North America.—Meets on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28 and 29. President, W. L. Oswald. Secretary, John P. Heylar, Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, N. J.

American Microscopical Society.—Will hold executive committee luncheon on Tuesday, December 28, at 12:30 P.M., followed by business meeting, same date, at 5 P.M. President, C. A. Kofoed. Secretary, Professor T. W. Galloway, James Millikin University, Decatur, Ill.

American Mathematical Society (Chicago Section).—Meets on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 30 to January 1. Will hold joint meeting with Section A, A. A. A. S., on Thursday, December 30, at 2 P.M. Secretary, Chicago Section, Professor H. E. Slaught, 5548 Kenwood Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

American Federation of Teachers of the Mathematical and the Natural Sciences.—Will meet on dates to be announced. Secretary, Professor William A. Hedrick, McKinley Manual Training School, Washington, D. C.

American Nature-Study Society.—Meets on Thursday and Friday, December 30 and 31. Will hold joint session with School Garden Association of America on Thursday, December 30, at 2:30 P.M. President, L. H. Bailey. Secretary, Professor E. R. Downing, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

School Garden Association of America.—Meets in joint session with American Nature-Study Society on Thursday, December 30, at 2:30 P.M. President, Van Evrie Kilpatrick, 124 West 30th St., New York, N. Y.

Society of the Sigma Xi.—Will meet on dates to be announced. President, Dr. Charles S. Howe, Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, Ohio.

Wilson Ornithological Club.—Will meet on dates to be announced. President, T. C. Stephens, Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa.

Gamma Alpha Graduate Scientific Fraternity.—Will meet on dates to be announced. Recorder, L. C. Johnson, 613 West Michigan Avenue, Urbana, Ill.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Nobel prize for physics for 1914, according to a Reuter dispatch from Stockholm, has been awarded to Professor Max von Laue, of Frankfort-on-Main, for his discovery of the diffraction of rays in crystals. The prize for chemistry for the same year has been awarded to Professor Theodore William Richards, of Harvard University, for fixing the atomic weights of chemical elements.

DR. WALLACE BUTTERICK, director of the China Medical Board, of the Rockefeller

Foundation, Dr. Simon Flexner, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, and Dr. William H. Welch, professor of pathology at Johns Hopkins University, were the guests of honor at the recent dedication of the new Sleeper-Davis Memorial Hospital, Peking, China. The new building is a five-story structure erected by the Methodist-Episcopal Church at a cost of \$180,000.

THE Romanes lecture before the University of Oxford will be delivered this year by Professor E. B. Poulton, Hope professor of zoology in the university, on December 7. The subject will be "Science and the Great War."

THE honorary degree of D.Sc. was conferred on October 26 on Mr. Guy A. K. Marshall, director of the recently established Imperial Bureau of Entomology.

DR. J. HORNE has been elected president of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. The vice-presidents of the Royal Society are: Professor F. O. Bower, Sir T. R. Fraser, Dr. B. N. Peach, Sir E. A. Schäfer, the Right Hon. Sir J. H. A. Macdonald and Professor R. A. Sampson.

THE Berlin Geographical Society has elected General von Beseler as its president.

DR. SVEN VON HEDIN has been elected a corresponding member of the Vienna Academy of Sciences.

WE learn from *Nature* that Mr. W. Marriott has retired from the post of assistant secretary of the Royal Meteorological Society held by him for the last forty years, and has been succeeded by Mr. A. H. Brown, the chief clerk of the society.

DR. HERMAN FISCHER, formerly professor of surgery in Breslau, has celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday.

DR. ALFRED WERNER has been made a member of the *Reichsanstalt*, Berlin.

DR. KARL H. VAN NORMAN, first assistant superintendent of Johns Hopkins Hospital, has resigned to accept a captaincy in a Canadian regiment.

PROFESSOR F. J. ALWAY, of the department of chemistry of soils of the University of Minnesota, has been elected president of the Min-