

DR. FRANCIS WYATT, of New York City, an authority on fermentation and brewing, has died at the age of sixty-one years.

PROFESSOR JOHAN CHRISTIAN MOBERG, of the University of Lund, the distinguished paleontologist and stratigrapher, died on December 30, 1915, at the age of sixty-one years.

NEWS has been sent us of the death of Alan Owston, naturalist and merchant, of Yokohama. Mr. Owston was born in England in 1853 and, while a boy, went to Yokohama, where he was engaged in a general export and import business. In connection with this, however, he undertook deep-sea dredging, fitting up different yachts, the best one being the *Golden Hind*, with which he made numerous explorations of the deep sea. Among other things, he discovered many new species of fishes. These have been described by Dr. Jordan and his associates, Dr. Gilbert and Professors Snyder and Starks, and by Dr. Tanaka, of the Imperial University of Tokyo. Part of his collections are in the National Museum and the British Museum, but the bulk of them has been purchased by the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh. In addition to his work as a naturalist and explorer of the deep sea, Dr. Owston took a very deep interest in the cause of national peace, writing under the pen name of "Asio," numerous articles in Japan in opposition to the war system. Recently he became one of the editors of a journal known as *Commercial Japan*.

MR. WARREN K. MOOREHEAD, of Andover, Massachusetts, is preparing a volume on Indian stone ornaments and problematical forms. He will be glad to receive communications from museum curators and those interested in technical study of prehistoric stone ornamental objects and the distribution of such forms. Mr. Moorehead will present a number of maps showing areas in which ornamental and problematical forms known as banner, winged and bird stones, charms and amulets, etc., are found. The relation of these to the distribution of linguistic stocks will be indicated.

THE President of the United States has

issued a proclamation, dated February 11, stating that whereas, certain prehistoric aboriginal ruins situated upon public lands of the United States, within the Santa Fe National Forest, in the state of New Mexico, are of unusual ethnologic, scientific and educational interest, and it appears that the public interests would be promoted by reserving these relics of a vanished people, with as much land as may be necessary for their proper protection, therefore a national monument is established to be known as the Bandelier National Monument.

THE department of chemistry of the College of the City of New York announces special lectures to be given at 3 P.M., as follows:

March 10—"Food Control in New York City," by Mr. Lucius P. Brown, director, Bureau of Food and Drugs, Dept. of Health, New York City.

March 17—"The Extraction of Radium from Its Ores," by Dr. Chas. L. Parsons, mineral technologist, United States Bureau of Mines.

April 7—"Chemical Control of Medical Supplies Purchased for the United States Army," by Lieutenant D. W. Fetterolf, Medical Relief Corps, United States Army.

April 14—"Science in the Humanities," by Mr. Elwood Hendrick.

May 5—"The Emancipation of American Chemical Industries," by Dr. Thomas H. Norton, commercial agent, U. S. Department of Commerce.

May 12—"Food Poison," by Mr. James P. Atkinson, chemist, Food and Drug Laboratory, Department of Health, New York City.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE University of Illinois has purchased for its school of pharmacy a new site located at the corner of Wood and Flournoy Streets, Chicago, immediately opposite the new Cook County Hospital, and affording a frontage of 201 feet on Wood Street and 128 feet on Flournoy Street. The purchase includes two substantial brick buildings erected for the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College and Hospital some years ago. These buildings will be put into shape at once, and it is expected that the school will remove to its new quarters

immediately following the close of the present school year. The new location is in the great medical center of Chicago and only a short distance from the medical and dental colleges of the university, which will bring its three Chicago departments into much closer relations.

An endowment of \$50,000 to support graduate fellowships for Canadians in the American University, Washington, has been made by the estate of the late Hart A. Massey, of Toronto, who desired to establish, if possible, some link between the Methodism in Canada and the United States.

MR. C. E. PROBYN has bequeathed the residue of his estate, amounting to about £10,000, to the University of Bristol.

Nature quoting from the *Pioneer Mail* states that the staff has now been selected for the Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital at Delhi, which Lord Hardinge opened on February 17: Principal and professor of medicine, Dr. K. A. Platt; professor of anatomy and gynecology, Miss Hitton; professor of pathology, Miss Field; professor of anatomy, Miss Murphy; professor of chemistry, Miss A. M. Bane; professor of biology and physiology, Miss M. R. Holmer. It is expected that tuition will begin next September, and the government of India will contribute a lakh of rupees (about \$33,500) yearly to the annual maintenance charges.

DR. ROSCOE POUND, Carter professor of jurisprudence, has been appointed dean of the Harvard Law School. Dr. Pound is known to scientific men for his studies of the phyto-geography of Nebraska. He is a member of the Botanical Society of America and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Pound was a member of the Committee of the American Association of University Professors which drew up its Report on Academic Freedom and Academic Tenure.

PROFESSOR ELIOT BLACKWELDER, of the University of Wisconsin, has been called to the headship of the department of geology at the University of Illinois.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

CROWN GALL OF PLANTS AND CANCER

RECENTLY I have made discoveries which tie crown gall of plants closer to cancer of man and animals. I can now produce embryonic teratomata at will by bacterial inoculations. All that is necessary is to inoculate growing plants in areas containing dormant totipotent or pluripotent cells, using *Bacterium tumefaciens*. Moreover, as in man, daughter tumors are produced freely and these also contain teratoid elements. These results have been obtained repeatedly during the last two months on *Pelargonium*, tomato, tobacco and citrus. A full account will be published within a short time.

ERWIN F. SMITH

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
March 3, 1916

THE RISE OF SEA LEVEL SHOWN BY COASTAL DUNES

In a paper¹ published in the second annual report of the state geologist of Florida, in 1909, the writer called attention to sand dunes on the coast of southern Florida and the relation of these dunes to present sea level. It is altogether possible that others have noted the value of the evidence shown by coastal dunes as indicating changes of sea level with respect to the land, but the writer has not seen any references to the matter, and for that reason mentions it again.

Dunes may be divided into two classes—active and quiescent. Active dunes are those that are still growing, fed by supplies of wind-blown sand from some nearby expanse. Quiescent dunes are not growing, and are covered with vegetation. A good example of an active coastal dune is the great dune at Cape Henry, Va. Good examples of quiescent dunes may be found at many points along the Atlantic coast.

At some quiescent dunes close to the shore the writer has observed that a dune, as shown by its shape and the stratification of its sands, grew under conditions that no longer exist,

¹Sanford, Samuel, "Topography and Geology of Southern Florida," page 184.