

that point to examine old ruins and make archeological studies.

DR. FRANK A. HERALD has recently returned to America from China, where he has been making geological investigations of the possibilities of oil and gas fields for the Standard Oil Company of New York.

THE staff of the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory of the University of Iowa, on Lake Okoboji, Iowa, will be as follows for 1916: Director, B. Shimek, University of Iowa; zoology, T. C. Stephens, Morningside College; geology, J. L. Tilton, Simpson College; botany, A. F. Ewers, McKinley High School, St. Louis; zoology during August, F. A. Stromsten, University of Iowa. Assistants, D. H. Boot, Zoe Frazier, Eva Cresswell, W. J. Himmel. The regular summer session, during which courses will be offered, will run from June 19 to July 31. The usual research session will be held during August.

THE annual address of the Pathological Society of Philadelphia was delivered by Dr. William H. Park, New York, at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, on April 27.

THE annual Cutter lecture, on "Preventive Medicine and Hygiene," was delivered at the Harvard Medical School on Monday, April 3, by Dr. George W. McCoy, director of the Hygienic Laboratory of the United States Public Health Service. Dr. McCoy, formerly superintendent of the leper colony on the Island of Molokai, Hawaii, selected as his topic, "The Public Health Aspects of Leprosy."

THE tenth Harvey lecture was given at the New York Academy of Medicine, on April 8, by Professor Stanley R. Benedict, of Cornell University, his subject being: "Uric Acid in its relation to Metabolism."

PROVOST EDGAR F. SMITH, of the University of Pennsylvania, was the guest of honor on Founder's Day at Juniata College on April 17, when they dedicated their new science hall. Dr. Smith delivered the principal address, his subject being "A Tribute to the Sciences."

THE seventh of the exchange lectures between the University of Wisconsin medical department and the Marquette University

medical school was given by Dr. W. J. Meek at Milwaukee on April 19, on "The Physiology of Adrenelin." The previous lecture was given by Dr. C. R. Bardeen on "The Physical Basis of Heredity."

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE state of New Jersey has recently appropriated the sum of \$4,000 to aid in establishing a course in sanitary science to be affiliated with the course in biology at Rutgers College.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY has concluded an arrangement with the Brooklyn Botanic Garden whereby research courses in botany will be conducted at the garden and credited in the biology department of the university's graduate school. Plant-breeding and plant-pathology will be the principal fields of investigation. The Botanic Garden is a department of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. Its agreement with the university, entered into "for the purpose of encouraging botanical investigation," provides that the instructors in this research work will have the rank of "lecturer" in New York University and the students' work will count for an advanced degree.

The British Medical Journal states that the late Mr. Stanley Boyd left an estate valued at £32,646. After providing for certain legacies he left the residue of his property in trust for his mother and sister and the survivor of them, and subject thereto he gave £2,100 to Epsom College for one foundation scholarship, and the ultimate residue to the University of London for the endowment of a professorship of pathology in the Medical School of Charing Cross Hospital. Out of the property bequeathed to him by his wife he gives a number of legacies to her relatives, £1,000 each to the London School of Medicine for Women, the New Hospital for Women and the Pathological Department of the New Hospital for Women, and any residue to the New Hospital for Women.

THE board of governors of the Western University, London, Ont., has purchased a large

farm near that city for the erection of a new university. The location consists of 100 acres overlooking London. Building operations will not be commenced until the end of the war, but plans will be prepared and the grounds laid out.

CASSIUS JACKSON KEYSER, professor of mathematics in Columbia University, and M. W. Haskell, professor of mathematics in the University of California, will exchange chairs for the half-year from August to December, 1916.

MR. ELIOT BLACKWELDER, professor of historical geology at the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed professor of geology and head of the department, at the University of Illinois. The appointment will take effect on September 1.

THERE have been promoted to assistant professorships at Yale University, Joshua Irving Tracey, Ph.D., in mathematics and Alexander Louis Prince, M.D., in physiology.

AT Rutgers College, Dr. F. E. Chidester, associate professor of zoology, has been advanced to a professorship and made chairman of the course in biology; Dr. A. R. Moore, associate professor of physiology at Bryn Mawr, has been made professor of physiology and head of the newly created department of physiology; and Richard Ashman has been appointed assistant in zoology.

DR. WILBUR A. SAWYER has been appointed clinical professor of preventive medicine and hygiene in the University of California. He will continue also his work as secretary and executive officer of the California State Board of Health. The object of the creation of this new department is to bring about the most effective possible cooperation between the University of California and the California State Board of Health. The new department will include in its staff Dr. James G. Cumming, director of the Bureau of Communicable Diseases of the State Board of Health, who will become also assistant professor of preventive medicine and hygiene, and, as lecturers in preventive medicine and hygiene, Dr. William

C. Hassler, Dr. John N. Force, Dr. Jacob N. Geiger, assistant director of the Bureau of Communicable Diseases, and Chester G. Gillespie, C.E., director of the Board of Sanitary Engineering of the California State Board of Health.

AMONG promotions at Stanford University are: To the rank of associate professor, John P. Mitchell in chemistry, Leonas L. Burlingame in botany and Rennie W. Doane in entomology; to rank of assistant professor, Hayes W. Young in metallurgy, John F. Cowan in surgery and Perley A. Ross in physics.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THOSE FUR SEAL BONES

"MILLIONS of dollars' worth of seal and sea lion bone deposits on the shores of the Pribilof Islands, a vast store of government-owned fertilizer available for practical use," is the way the Washington dispatch of February 28 comments on a report said to have been made by the secretary of commerce to the House committee on merchant marine. One of these deposits is said to be "a mile long by half a mile wide and fully six feet deep." This suggests 83,000,000 cubic feet of bone—a wonderful deposit, indeed! To complete the picture it is stated that raw ground bone was bringing \$35 a ton in December.

This sounds like a very important discovery. It will be too bad if it proves not to be true. The dispatch indicates that the deposits "have not been fully surveyed." It is to be feared that the completed surveys will be disappointing.

It is a fact that since the discovery of the Pribilof Islands in 1786 upwards of 5,000,000 fur seals have been killed and their carcasses left to rot on the killing grounds. These are the bones which are referred to. There are no prehistoric bones, since the death of the adult animals from natural termination of life is at sea, under the stress of the winter migration. Of the five million animals killed about one half were deposited on the great killing ground near the village on St. Paul Island.