

and sarcastic comments, which he always met with gentleness and sorrow.

His weather forecasts, from which he gained deserved fame, were always deduced by strictly considering the effects that should follow certain observed conditions. An amusing instance of that practise gained wide circulation among the office force. At 10 A.M. it suddenly began to rain in Washington, and at 10:15 A.M. Abbe predicted that there would be no rain in the city for the 24 hours beginning at 8 A.M. that day. When taxed with it he simply said: "There was nothing in the conditions shown by the map that scientifically indicated rain." He was equally true to his beliefs in all other directions. Fidelity and loyalty marked his long public career, and in Browning's words Cleveland Abbe could truthfully say that of his life, he "learned to love the true."

A. W. GREELY

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS

THE American Society of Naturalists, in affiliation with the American Association of Anatomists, the American Society of Zoologists, and the Botanical Society of America, will hold its thirty-fourth annual meeting at New York, under the auspices of Columbia University, on Friday, December 29, 1916, and, by invitation of the Carnegie Station for Experimental Evolution, at Cold Spring Harbor on Saturday, December 30.

The Botanical Society of America will place the genetical papers of its program on Thursday morning December 28, and the American Society of Zoologists will group its genetical papers in a program for Thursday afternoon. By this arrangement there will be sessions of genetical interest on the day preceding the meetings of the Naturalists and continuing with the Naturalists' programs for Friday and Saturday.

The Friday morning session of the Naturalists will be open for papers on evolution, genetics, and related subjects from members or invited guests, titles of which with estimated length of delivery must be in the hands of the secretary by December 1. Requests for micro-

scopes or for space for demonstrations should also be sent to the secretary.

The program of Friday afternoon will be a symposium on "Biology and National Existence," with papers by Stewart Paton, W. J. Spillman, V. L. Kellogg, Jacques Loeb and E. G. Conklin.

The annual dinner, in which members of the affiliated societies are invited to participate, will be held in the evening of Friday at the Hotel Manhattan, which has been selected as the headquarters of the Naturalists.

There will be a joint smoker for members of the Naturalists and of the affiliated societies at the Columbia University Commons, Wednesday evening, December 27.

Members of the American Society of Naturalists are invited by the Carnegie Station for Experimental Evolution to spend Saturday, December 30, at Cold Spring Harbor. A morning session from 10.30 to 1 will be held in Blackford Hall for the presentation of genetical papers. After a lunch there will be opportunity to inspect the equipment of the station, the activities of which will be explained by the staff. Arrangements for trains will be announced in the final program.

BRADLEY M. DAVIS,
Secretary

THE ENDOWMENT OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE General Education Board and the Rockefeller Foundation have appropriated \$2,000,000 (each \$1,000,000) for the establishment of a medical department in the University of Chicago. It brings Mr. Rockefeller's contributions to the university up to nearly \$37,000,000.

The university will set aside at least \$2,000,000 for the same purpose, will give a site on the Midway valued at \$500,000, and will raise a further sum of \$3,300,000. The medical school will therefore start with an endowment of almost \$8,000,000.

Rush Medical College, established seventy-five years ago, will go out of existence. The Presbyterian Hospital which Rush College

has used, will be taken over by the University of Chicago and will be reorganized to provide adequate clinical and laboratory facilities. A new laboratory building will be erected in immediate conjunction with the hospital. The buildings and grounds of the Presbyterian Hospital are valued at about \$3,000,000.

A statement given out by Dr. Abraham Flexner says:

This project will be giving the city of Chicago a high-grade medical school and it will also provide for the first time in this country a post-graduate school adequately equipped and financed.

The school will be erected on the Midway Plaisance, and will thus form a part of the present University of Chicago plant. High-grade modern laboratory buildings will be provided for instruction in the students' first and second years, and a university hospital under complete control of the university, with laboratories and an out patient department, will be built on the Midway.

The entire teaching staff, clinical as well as laboratory, will be organized on the full time basis. That is, all the teachers for clinical as well as laboratory studies will give their entire time to teaching and research in the university hospital and medical school. Professors and their assistants will hold their posts on condition that they become salaried university officials and that they accept personally no fees whatever for any medical or surgical services.

The only medical schools in the country to-day which have embraced the full time teaching plan are Johns Hopkins Medical School and the medical department of Washington University, St. Louis.

The full-time scheme is a plan to insure to hospital work and medical teaching the undivided energy of eminent scientists whose efforts might otherwise be distracted by the conflicting demands of private practise and clinical teaching. The full time scheme is an appeal to scientific interests and devotion of the clinician, and the results so far realized through the plan at Johns Hopkins have been most satisfactory.

It should be of increasing consequence to the public that the training of those studying to become doctors should be in charge of the most competent men obtainable devoting their entire time to this work. Greatly increased efficiency and thoroughness should result, to the alleviation of suffering and the cure of disease.

The new institution thus to be established in Chicago will be equipped with every modern facility for medical instruction and with ample funds for operation.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE American Academy of Arts and Sciences on November 15 presented the Rumford medals to Mr. Charles Greeley Abbot, of the Smithsonian Institution, for his researches on solar radiation.

DR. GEORGE F. KAY, head of the department of geology of the University of Iowa and state geologist of Iowa, has been elected university research lecturer for the current year. During each year the university lecturer visits the educational institutions of Iowa and delivers a lecture in which is involved the spirit of research. This policy has been followed successfully for about ten years.

DR. JOSEPH J. KINYOUN, bacteriologist of the health department of the District of Columbia, who, at the request of the authorities of Winston-Salem, N. C., has been for several months engaged in the reorganization of the health department of that city, has resumed his duties in Washington.

MAJOR-GENERAL GOETHALS, governor of the Panama Canal Zone, will pass into the retired list of the army on his own application dating from November 15, after forty years' service. The order of retirement affects only General Goethals's military status and does not operate to relieve him from duty as governor of the Canal Zone, but is preliminary to his retirement.

THE Sociedad Argentina de Ciencias Naturales, Buenos Aires, has elected as corresponding members Sir Ernest Shackleton and Mr. W. H. Hudson, the author of "Argentine Ornithology" and other works.

ON the occasion of his seventieth birthday on December 7, 1915, Professor A. Voss, of the University of Munich, received from the Munich technical high school the honorary degree of doctor of technical sciences.

At the annual meeting of the British Astronomical Association on October 25, it was