

next biennium, and \$1,250,000 for the Kansas State Agricultural College. The three normal schools were given approximately \$970,000, and the various other schools and sub-experiment stations \$242,000. The total appropriation for all designated educational institutions was a little less than four million dollars for the two years beginning July 1, 1917.

THE will of the late William W. Lawrence, president of the National Lead Company, provides that on the death of Mrs. Lawrence a sum of over \$200,000 will go to Princeton University.

A BILL has been enacted in New Jersey designating the scientific departments of Rutgers College as the State University of New Jersey.

ARRANGEMENTS have been completed between Northwestern University Medical School and the Chicago Fresh Air Hospital for a course of instruction in tuberculosis for the members of the senior class in the medical school. The class is divided into sections, each receiving clinical instruction for a period of four weeks.

To meet the increased cost of supplies and to permit an enlargement of educational facilities, tuition in the medical school of George Washington University has been increased from \$150 to \$175 a year, and in the dental school from \$125 to \$150, to take effect next fall.

DR. SCOTT NEARING has presented his resignation at Toledo University owing to criticisms made by citizens of the city of his anti-militaristic activities. It will be considered by a committee of the trustees.

IN accordance with the reorganization plan at the Creighton University College of Medicine, the bio-chemical and physiological laboratories have been merged into a single department under the direction of Professor S. Morgulis. Dr. William A. Perlzweig, of the Rockefeller Institute, has been appointed assistant professor of bio-chemistry in the department.

DR. ETHAN A. GRAY, medical superintendent of the Chicago Fresh Air Hospital, has been

appointed assistant professor of medicine in Northwestern University.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### A RELIEF MAP OF THE UNITED STATES

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Mr. Kinkaid's proposition (SCIENCE, March 9), to construct a relief map of the United States "300 feet square or 600 feet square" would be, judging from my own experience, a pretty costly one. A relief map of the state of New York 35 feet long, east and west, and 26 feet broad, north and south, now in our museum, cost \$17,000 to make. Estimating broadly the dimensions, area and cost of a map of the entire United States on the same scale, the map would be 237.5 feet long, and at the same proportion of cost the expense of making it would be \$1,045,500. This is on the scale of one mile to the inch. If the scale were one half mile to the inch, the cost would be, in the same proportion, \$4,182,000.

And where in Washington or elsewhere would Mr. Kinkaid put such a map of the United States, 600, or even 300 feet long? There is no building large enough to hold it. Buildings 600 feet long and 300 feet wide are not bagatelles. Perhaps one might be built for a million dollars, but it is doubtful.

Surely for this proposition, as Mr. Kinkaid suggests, "the main problem is to find the philanthropist." But before going out to hunt him, let us remember that only 40.2 per cent. of the United States has been covered by topographic surveys in such detail as to give an adequate basis for such a relief map as he has dreamed of.

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### AN ANCIENT REFERENCE TO THE EMERALD

OUR college librarian, Professor Chipman, while arranging a course on "Books and Libraries" happened to call my attention to a translation of the oldest known manuscript which could justly be called a book, an Egyptian parchment entitled "The Instruction of Ptah-hotep."<sup>1</sup> In glancing it through I came across this interesting sentence:

<sup>1</sup> Translated by B. G. Gunn. E. P. Dutton, 1910.