

at the Ohio State University on "Sources of Human Nature."

HERBERT WILLIAM CONN, professor of biology in Wesleyan University and Connecticut State bacteriologist, has died at the age of fifty-eight years.

THE death is announced of Emil von Behring, professor in the University of Marburg, discoverer of diphtheria antitoxin. He was born in West Prussia in 1854. In 1901 he received the Nobed prize in medicine, and was made a member of the hereditary nobility.

THE death is announced of Dr. Narcisse E. Dionne, librarian of the Legislature of Quebec, and formerly professor of archeology of Laval University. Dr. Dionne was the author of a number of important biographical and historical works, and in 1907 served as general secretary of the fifteenth International Congress of Americanists, which was held at Quebec.

THE Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology held its twelfth annual meeting on April 12 and 13, 1917, at Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, Va. It was voted to extend the scope of the society so as to include "experimental education," and to hold the next meeting at Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn. The following officers were elected: President, Professor E. K. Strong, Jr., Peabody College, Nashville; Vice-president, Dr. T. V. Moore, Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., and Secretary-Treasurer, Professor W. H. Chase, University of North Carolina. The newly elected members of the council are: Dr. Tom A. Williams, Washington, D. C., Professor E. B. Crooks, Randolph-Macon, Lynchburg, Va., and Professor Knight Dunlap, of Johns Hopkins University.

AT the annual meeting of the American Association of Immunologists, held in New York, April 6 and 7, Dr. John A. Kolmer, Philadelphia, was elected president; Dr. Martin J. Synnott, Montclair, N. J., secretary, and Dr. Willard J. Stone, Toledo, Ohio, treasurer. The new council is composed of the officers and Drs. Richard Weil, Arthur F. Coca and William H. Park, New York, and Dr. A. Parker

Hitchens, Glen Olden, Pa. The next meeting will be held in Minneapolis in April, 1918.

A SCIENCE Faculty Club has been organized at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif. The purpose of the club is to promote research and cooperation between the departments of science in the university. A meeting is held each month. The officers are Professor Albert B. Ulrey, president; Professor Arthur W. Nye, vice-president, and Miss Catherine V. Beers, secretary.

THE Oklahoma State Bureau of Standards, which was organized by act of the legislature of 1915 secured an appropriation of \$8,500 with which to purchase equipment. It is the purpose of the bureau to secure primary and secondary standards of weights and measures and for testing gas, water and electric meters. The bureau is also planning the equipment of a laboratory for the measuring and testing of the best values of fuels as coal and petroleum products. The bureau is situated at the State University and with the equipment planned will be able to provide the people of the state a place where they may have their weights and meters, etc., calibrated.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE president of the Republic of Panama has signed a decree establishing a Pan-American University in accordance with a law passed by the legislature on January 27. The trustees are to consist of the secretary of public instruction of Panama and the diplomatic representatives of the American republics or their representatives. Diplomatic representatives of other countries maintaining chairs in the university are also to have representatives on the board. It is believed that the university may be of international value to the American republics, especially in subjects such as medicine, law and agriculture.

THE legislature of the state of Oklahoma at its recent session made provision for the following buildings for the State University at Norman: Auditorium, \$150,000; wing to library, \$75,000; geology building, \$100,000; hospital at Oklahoma City in connection with

the medical school, \$200,000. At the same time the Agricultural and Mechanical Arts College at Stillwater was granted: Science hall, \$100,000; gymnasium, \$100,000.

THE residue of the estate of James Buchanan Brady, which is estimated as more than four million dollars, is bequeathed to the New York Hospital on West Sixteenth Street, New York City, to establish the James Buchanan Brady Foundation for a urological institute, similar to that at Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore, which Mr. Brady had endowed during his life with \$200,000. An additional \$300,000 is left in trust to the Johns Hopkins Hospital for the maintenance of the institute.

THE Harvard Medical School will provide instruction for the senior class during the summer, with two weeks holiday. It is optional with students whether they will begin their fourth year's work on June 4 or September 24.

OWING to the national emergency, the Cornell University Medical College announces that it will continue instruction for members of its senior class throughout the summer so that they may be graduated with the degree of M.D. on or about January 1, 1917.

PROFESSOR C. R. RICHARDS, professor of mechanical engineering and head of the department since 1911, has been appointed dean of the College of Engineering and director of the Engineering Experiment Station of the University of Illinois to succeed Dr. W. F. M. Goss who has resigned to become president of the Railway Car Manufacturers' Association of New York.

DR. CHAS. BROOKOVER, of the University of Kansas, has been elected professor of anatomy and director of the department at the University of Louisville.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A VIABLE TEN-YEAR-OLD CULTURE OF *BACILLUS PARATYPHOSUS BETA*

As the usual text-books, manuals and current literature make but little or no mention of the length of life of individual bacteria the following record may not be without interest.

In 1909, when I began teaching bacteriology at Howard University, among the stock cultures of organisms in the laboratory was one labeled "Paratyphoid Schottmüller 1-14-06." It was a deep agar stab made in a narrow test tube and the tube instead of being closed in the usual manner by a cotton plug had been sealed off in the flame. Hermetically sealed, the agar culture had been prevented from drying. The culture had been prepared three years previously by Dr. W. W. Alleger.

On January 17, 1916, ten years and three days after the culture had been made, the tube was broken open and the organisms transferred to Russell double sugar. The characteristic red color and gas did not appear in the butt of the tube on the first transfer. Transfers were then made from this tube to other double sugar tubes at irregular intervals during a couple of months. At about the fifth transfer the organism showed its characteristic reaction on the double sugar. Its fermentation of separate sugars was tried, as well as other cultural tests, and the agglutination test with paratyphoid beta immune serum was done. All these indicated that the organism was *Bacillus paratyphosus beta*.

During the ten years it had always been kept in a closet away from the light, along with the other stock cultures. The temperature in closet varied during the first five years from as high as 32° C. in summer to nearly as low as 0° C. in winter. During the last five years the temperature was never lower than 15° C.

M. W. LYON, JR.

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

A METHOD FOR KILLING TURTLES

KILLING turtles for class purposes is more or less of a task depending upon the equipment at hand. Even though a closed tank is available for administering gas, thirty minutes to an hour is required for anesthetizing these reptiles and then they may revive during dissection. Another expedient sometimes resorted to is to place the specimens in boiling water for a few minutes. This has its objections. I have observed attempts to