The smaller stone fell in a cultivated field without breaking and is said to have penetrated the soil about two feet. This stone is variously described as about 10 x 14 x 3 or 4 inches, 17 or 18 inches by 9 x 9 inches and 21 x 11 x 11 inches at larger end, sloping in two directions to a wedge shape with rounded corners. This piece was said to be entirely covered with crust and to have weighed from 75 to 85 pounds.

The man who extracted it from the earth informs me that it was so cold that frost immediately formed on its surface when exposed to the air.

The Public Museum of the City of Milwaukee has obtained the bulk of the larger mass which will be analyzed and duly published. It probably will be distributed in exchange with several museums.

The stone is of a light gray groundmass, apparently largely feldspathic, containing very few chondrules and thickly shot with pyrrhotite varying from specks a fraction of a millimeter to more or less globular masses 5 mm. in diameter. It exhibits sundry black veins and armored surfaces. Its crust shows considerable variation on different pieces, some of which are deeply pitted and others comparatively smooth.

This is, I believe, the sixth meteorite known from the state of Wisconsin and will be known as the Colby meteorite.

HENRY L. WARD

PUBLIC MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE,
July 31, 1917

FILING PAMPHLETS

THE communications relative to filing reprints, bulletins and other pamphlets have been read with considerable interest by the writer and further suggestions are offered.

Having been in experiment station work for a number of years and being on the mailing lists of a large number of stations, the literature, particularly bulletins and circulars, has been accumulating rapidly. Of these, there may be many which may be of no immediate interest and attempts have been made repeatedly to find some system for filing and indexing them, which will give a maximum of usefulness with a minimum of work in arranging and filing. Many of the various systems have been tried with the result that owing to the time required for arranging, one becomes confronted with an almost hopeless stack of publications if the work be neglected even for a short time.

Numbering in the order of acquisition was early abandoned, on account of the time necessary for preparing index cards and the cross refernces which sooner or later become inevitable, and the resulting jumbled mass of publications on the shelves. Filing according to origin, as by experiment station in the case of such publications, was tried, but this, too, required a card index and, as in the former system, the necessary picking over of the entire shelves when a number of publications on one subject were desired. Filing by author led to the same results. It was finally concluded that in order to obtain a higher degree of efficiency it would be necessary to combine indexing with filing, thus doing away with a large number of indexing cards, and at the same time some of the deficiencies of the other systems of filing. This conclusion led to a search for a fairly complete scheme of classification. The Dewey system was consulted and was found wanting, particularly because the division agriculture was not classified finely enough. The solution of the problem was found in the scheme of classification of the Library of Congress. This may be procured from the Superintendent of Documents at a small price and answers the purpose very well.

In using this scheme, the publications are numbered according to the class number of the subject and placed in the proper filing boxes for each particular subject or subjects. Where a pamphlet contains information on more than one subject it is only necessary to prepare a cross reference card of fairly large size and file it in its proper place among the publications. To prevent "burying" of a publication, a register is used in which the publications are listed according to their origin

with their class numbers. With this arrangement it is possible to locate immediately any publication, even if only its origin is known. The chief advantage of the scheme lies in the fact that all material with cross references on any given subject are immediately available.

For agricultural workers in special lines the classification may not be complete enough but this may be easily remedied by preparing an outline for more minute classification. For the purposes of the writer the heading insecticides and fungicides was further subdivided and this has been very satisfactory so far. As the worker in insecticides and fungicides is often called upon for chemical information in other closely related lines such as parasiticides, germicides, weed killers, poisons for vertebrate pests and the like, it has often been debated whether the classification should belong under economic entomology, where it now is, or agricultural chemistry, or whether there should not be a special heading under agriculture for the entire subject or group of subjects. In such a case, the entire branch might be included under the heading "economic toxicology." This name the writer believes to be original and it appears to fill the need for a name for such a diversified and yet closely related group of subjects.

As to the actual storage of pamphlets, any of the suggestions found in the various communications are of value, provided the unit holder be not too large to facilitate the location of any particular publication.

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QUOTATIONS

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

At the request of the President of the United States, the National Research Council has been engaged during the past year in mobilizing the research forces of the nation. It has been an enormous task, to which many of the most brilliant workers of the country have given their undivided time. The work has gradually and logically centered at Washington, and the research forces of the country are now quickly available to any department of the government. Development has proceeded to the point where this organization can be truly considered a going machine, forming a connection between the research workers of the country-at-large and the government, and serving as a valuable coordinating influence. With the preliminary work now accomplished, its full value will be more and more nearly attained with each succeeding day.

For the continuance of the work, however, funds will be necessary. Up to the present its operations have cost the government absolutely nothing: office rent, stationery, postage, clerical assistance, etc., have been provided by private contributions, and the time of members of university staffs has been contributed by the respective institutions. For so important a body such an existence is too precarious. If the government needs war material it pays for it and a willing citizenry furnishes the funds through taxation. Are the brains of our scientific men less valuable in this crisis than coal or cotton? As an American citizen we hope that Congress before adjournment will supply adequate funds for the carrying on of the work of the National Research Council on the most intensive and extensive scale possible. We are unwilling to believe that the government of the United States is so pauperized that it must depend on "the passing of the hat" or that it is willing to continue to draw further upon the seriously impaired incomes of our universities in order that the salaries of the men engaged in this work may be met.—*Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry.*

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

The Principles of Aerography. By Alexander McAdie. Rand McNally & Co., Chicago. 1917. 318 pp., 8vo, 51 ills., 59 charts and diagrams.

"The Principles of Aerography" deals with the most recent advances in meteorology. As to its title, turning to Murray's Dictionary[1]

[1] "A New English Dictionary," 1888, Vol. 1, p. 146.