

its annual meeting at the State University of Iowa on November 8, 9 and 10.

THE Rev. Dr. Anson Phelps Stokes, secretary of Yale University, has been chosen principal of Hampton Normal Institute, to succeed the late Dr. V. B. Frissell.

DR. WILLIAM B. MELDRUM, of Vassar College, has been appointed assistant professor of chemistry at Haverford College, taking the place of Lyman B. Hall, professor of chemistry, who resigned at the retiring age after thirty-seven years of service.

THE following changes have been made during the summer in the staff of the department of geology at the University of Illinois: Professor C. W. Rolfe has retired as professor emeritus. Mr. Fred H. Kay, lecturer on petroleum geology, has gone into the service of the Sun Oil Company; Dr. F. M. Van Tuyl, instructor, has resigned to accept the assistant professorship of geology in the Colorado School of Mines; Dr. C. W. Tomlinson, A.M. (Wisconsin), Ph.D. (Chicago), has been appointed associate in structural and general geology.

MR. F. A. C. PERRINE has resigned as assistant professor of psychology at the University of Pittsburgh to accept the position of adjunct professor of psychology at the University of Texas. Mr. Jos. U. Yarbrough was made an instructor in psychology at the University of Texas.

DR. J. W. BEEDE, associate professor of geology at the Indiana University, has accepted a position in the bureau of economic geology and technology, in the University of Texas.

AT Cornell University, Bernard A. Chandler has been appointed assistant professor of forest utilization for 1917-18, in place of Professor A. B. Recknagel, who is absent on leave.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE INTERNATIONAL UNITS AND SYMBOLS IN AEROGRAPHY

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In the somewhat appreciative review of the text-book on

"Aerography" in SCIENCE, September 14, 1917, on p. 265 is the statement "the student may be confused in having absolute pressure units presented as 'kilobars' when they are commonly known as 'millibars.'" The reviewer underestimates the intelligence of university men; because the reasons why kilobar is preferable are given at length on page 30. Kilobar is as natural as kilogram. It may also be added that those who persist in advocating the retention of millibar are evidently not aware that V. Bjerknes expressly states that in his system the C.G.S. unit will be the *microbar*.

Again, the statement of the reviewer that "kilobar has historic preference over millibar but millibar is the internationally accepted term" is both inaccurate and misleading. Millibar is the earlier term and it has international acceptance only because there has been no opportunity to have the mistake corrected by international agreement. Moreover it is extremely problematical if the International Congress will ever meet again. But is it good form in scientific work to continue the use of an erroneous term because an official disclaimer is lacking? There are some other matters which are of perhaps greater moment. It is a strange commentary upon the work of the International Meteorological Congress that while giving us symbols for no less than 28 conditions varying from haze to aurora, there are no symbols for bright and diffused sunshine, mountain and valley winds, temperature inversion and sea-breeze. For the last named, the sea-breeze, we have been using at Blue Hill, three arrows on a vertical staff, to represent the characteristic changes in circulation. As the sea-breeze is a frequent and very important aerographic condition, any suggestion for a more fitting symbol will be appreciated.

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SYMBOLS

I AM confident that there is not a worker in the wide domain of physical science who