

Hooven, Owens, Rentschler Company, of Hamilton, Ohio, for the development of ingenious methods used in the manufacture of this typewriter.

This machine is capable of producing typewritten form letters much faster than they can be written in the ordinary way.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

A SPECIAL board of chemists to investigate explosives, the uses of gases in warfare and to act as advisers to the Bureau of Mines, has been appointed. The board will study the problem of increasing the production of materials used in explosives manufacture and will advise the bureau in the operation of the recently enacted law regulating the sale of explosives. The members are: Dr. William H. Nichols, of the General Chemical Company, New York, chairman; Professor H. P. Talbot, head of the chemical department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; William Hoskins, of Chicago, a consulting chemist; Professor H. P. Venable, of the University of North Carolina; Professor E. C. Franklin, of Stanford University, and Dr. Charles L. Parsons, of the Bureau of Mines.

PRESIDENT J. G. SCHURMAN, of Cornell University, has announced that the State Food Commission, of which he is a member, had completed its organization. Its work is now in three divisions—production, under Commissioner Wieting; distribution, under Commissioner Mitchell, and conservation, under Commissioner Schurman. For each of these divisions a bureau has been established with a director at its head. Calvin Huson, a former commissioner of agriculture, heads the bureau of production, and Cyrus Miller, a lawyer of New York City, the bureau of distribution. Professor Howard E. Babcock, of the State College of Agriculture at Cornell, now director of Farm Bureaus, has been appointed director of the bureau of conservation. Professor Babcock will receive a leave of absence from the university for the period of his service with the Food Commission.

THE mission sent to France by the Rockefeller Foundation to assist in combating the

threatened increase of tuberculosis has decided to work in three sections under the general direction of Dr. Livingston Farrand. The first section will establish in one of the arrondissements of Paris and in certain large provincial towns a complete antituberculosis organization consisting of dispensaries, clinics and laboratories, with provision for domiciliary attendance. This section will be directed by Dr. Miller. A second section, under Dr. Charles White, will undertake the distribution of assistance. A third section, under Professor Gunn, will be concerned with the education of the public; it has already commenced to organize traveling exhibitions, meetings and kinematograph displays.

THE British Industrial Research Committee of the Board of Education have made a grant to Professor G. H. Bryan, F.R.S., of the University College of North Wales, which will enable him to devote the whole of next session to the carrying on of some special research work in aeroplane construction of national importance. In the first instance Professor Bryan proposes to work at the University of Bristol.

THE following-named officers, Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps, are relieved from duty at the Engineer training camp, and will report by letter to the director, United States Geological Survey, for assignment to duty connected with military mapping: From Fort Leavenworth, Kans., Second Lieutenants Elmer LeC. Goldsmith, John W. Lewis, Edward J. Francis, Elmo N. Murphy, Carl R. French, William D. Lewis, and Charles B. Moore. From American University, District of Columbia, Second Lieutenants Charles M. Madden, Edward H. Stelle, Frederic E. Smith, Edward P. Asbury, George B. Davidson, Frederick W. Look, Gordon D. Cooke, Joseph W. Geary, Jr., and Walter K. Wood, and also Second Lieutenant Herman J. Switzer, Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps.

MR. A. H. GILBERT has accepted a position as a pathological inspector with the Federal Horticultural Board with headquarters at Washington, D. C. Mr. Gilbert was formerly

associate professor of botany at the University of Kentucky.

UNDER a grant from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. C. H. Kauffman spent the month of August, 1917, in the state of Colorado studying the genus *Cortinari* for his proposed monograph. In September, Dr. Kauffman began his work as a pathological inspector with the Federal Horticultural Board with headquarters at Washington, D. C.

THE Herbert Spencer Lecture for 1917 was delivered by Professor Emile Boutroux, member of the "Institut" and the French Academy, and Doctor of Letters of the University of Oxford, on October 20, in the Oxford University Museum. The subject of the lecture was "The relation between thought and action from the German and from the classical point of view." The lecture was delivered in English.

THE Bradshaw Lecture on "The causes of disease" was given before the Royal College of Physicians on November 8 by Professor Ernest S. Reynolds, physician to the Manchester Royal Infirmary. The FitzPatrick lectures were delivered on November 13, 14 and 15, by Dr. Arnold Chaplin, known for his studies of the Napoleonic period, on "Medicine in England during the reign of George III."

DR. J. S. FLETT gives this year the course of twelve Swiney lectures on geology at the Royal Society of Arts on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, beginning on Tuesday, November 13. The subject is "The Mineral Resources of the British Empire."

MEMORIAL services were held at Cornell University Medical College for the late Dr. Lewis A. Stimson, professor of surgery at the college from the time of its foundation in 1898 to his death on September 17, this year. Among the speakers were Mr. Elihu Root, President Jacob Gould Schurman, of Cornell; Dr. Gilman Thompson, professor of medicine, emeritus; Howard Townsend, president of the board of governors of New York Hospital, and Dr. Edward L. Keys.

PROFESSOR EDWARD HULL, LL.D., F.R.S., late director of the Geological Survey of Ireland, died on October 18, in his eighty-ninth year.

A BRONZE tablet commemorating Dr. Simon Baruch's connection with the campaign for public baths in New York City was unveiled at the Simon Baruch Public Baths, formerly the Rivington Street baths on October 29. The tablet was donated by Mrs. Belle Baruch through the Association for the Promotion of Hygiene and Public Baths. Borough President Marcus M. Marks made the address of acceptance in behalf of the city.

Nature states that the late Mr. Cawthron left £250,000 to the city of Nelson, New Zealand, for scientific research. The trustees are the bishop of the diocese, the member for the district, the mayor of Nelson, two chairmen of local bodies and a personal friend of the deceased. The site of the proposed institute has been purchased, and the appointment of a director and staff is under consideration. The object of the institute is, primarily, scientific research work for the benefit of the province of Nelson and the Dominion of New Zealand. The province of Nelson is mostly concerned with fruit, agriculture and minerals.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

By recent decision of the court Wilberforce University has come into possession of \$30,000 of the Charles Avery estate in Pittsburgh. The fund is to be used for endowment purposes.

COMMITTEES representing Leander Clark College, of Toledo, and Coe College, of Cedar Rapids, recently voted to merge these two institutions. Coe College will absorb Leander Clark with its endowment of about \$250,000.

SIR WILLIAM TATEM has given £25,000 for a laboratory at the University College of South Wales, Cardiff.

As has been already announced Dr. Ralph H. McKee has been appointed to take charge of the graduate work in industrial organic chemistry (department of chemical engineer-