

the Catholic University, died on July 8, at the age of seventy-nine years. Dr. Searle graduated from Harvard College in 1857 and held positions in the Dudley, Naval and Harvard observatories.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN FARNHAM PECKHAM, known for his work on the chemistry of bitumens, died on July 11, in his eightieth year. Professor Peckham was a graduate of Brown University in the class of 1861, and was professor of chemistry in the University of Minnesota from 1873 to 1880. Subsequently, he was engaged in the work of the U. S. Census, and was in the department of finance of New York City until his retirement in 1911.

LIEUTENANT VERNON KING, formerly scientific assistant in cereal and forage-crop insect investigations, Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, has died from wounds received when the British airplane in which he was serving as a flying observer was shot down. Lieutenant King was attached to the staff of the Wellington, Kans., field laboratory and was in charge of the Charleston, Mo., station prior to November 5, 1914, when he resigned to enter the British army.

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#### EDUCATIONAL NOTES AND NEWS

MOUNT UNION COLLEGE, Alliance, Ohio, has received \$512,000 for endowment and equipment to increase its educational work. Successful completion of this fund was made possible by the gift of \$50,000 by the friends of the late Captain Milton J. Lichty, M.D., of Cleveland. The professorship of biology will be named in his memory.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that the national government has modified the statutes of the University of Cordoba in accord with the general demand on the part of professors, students and graduates, giving them a more democratic control. The Academia will retain only its scientific functions, while the direction of the different de-

partments of the university will be in the hands of a managing board for each. The members of these *consejos* are to be elected for a term of three years at a general assembly of all the professors.

BECAUSE of almost continuous absence of Dr. Richard P. Strong since the outbreak of the war, the department of tropical medicine of the Harvard Medical School, has been placed in charge of Dr. Andrew W. Sellards, whose title as associate is now made that of assistant professor.

PROFESSOR C. A. SISAM, of the University of Illinois, has accepted the headship of the department of mathematics in Colorado College. He has been connected with the University of Illinois since 1906.

DR. GEORGE R. BANCROFT has resigned the professorship of chemistry and physics in Transylvania College, Lexington, Ky., to accept a position at the University of Kentucky as assistant professor of organic and physical chemistry.

DR. CHARLES T. BRUES has been promoted to be assistant professor of economic entomology in Harvard University.

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#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### A MUSICAL, CRICKET-LIKE CHIRPING OF A GRASSHOPPER

IN August, 1917, I made frequent trips to a certain swamp near Spring Hill, Vinson Station, Va., to study the stridulating habits of a colony of locusts, *Neoconocephalus Exiliscanorus* (Davis), which have been located here for several years. The usual notes of the cone-headed grasshoppers (*Neoconocephalus*) are quite devoid of any musical tone such as is characteristic of the chirpings and trillings of the crickets. In truth, the sounds produced by these insects are usually harsh, lisping or rasping noises which may be intermittent or prolonged, depending upon the species. The stridulations of the cone-headed grasshopper (*N. Exiliscanorus*) are of the intermittent type, and are brief, insistent phrases—zeet—zeet—zeet—zeet—zeet, delivered very regularly