

pletion in 1884. Under the style of director, Sir William Flower succeeded Sir Richard Owen, and he retired in 1898. For the next decade Sir E. Ray Lankester was director, and he was followed by Sir Lazarus Fletcher early in 1910.

DR. J. D. FALCONER, lecturer in geography in Glasgow University, has been granted further leave of absence in order that he may act at the first director of the Geological Survey of Nigeria.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

A GIFT of \$50,000 from Lieutenant Howard H. Spaulding, has been made for the physiological laboratory building fund of Yale University. The principle of this fund may be used by the university at any time in its discretion for the construction of a physiological laboratory and meanwhile the income is to be used annually in meeting the expenses of the department of physiology.

MR. GEORGE BONAR, president of the Dundee Chamber of Commerce, has given £25,000 for commercial education in University College, Dundee.

THE Royal Edinburgh Asylum for the Insane has offered an endowment of £10,000 towards a chair of mental diseases in the University of Edinburgh.

PLANS for the introduction of a course on public health and industrial medicine in the college of medicine of the university of Cincinnati are being made by Dean C. R. Holmes. The course has the support of the United States Public Health Service and it is planned to conduct it on the cooperative basis somewhat like that used in the college of engineering.

PROFESSOR HAL W. MOSELEY has been promoted to be associate professor of chemistry in Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

PROFESSOR E. O. HEUSE, formerly instructor in physical chemistry at the University of Illinois, and later professor of chemistry at Monmouth College, Monmouth, Ill., has been

appointed professor of chemistry and head of the department at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: At the close of his interesting address on "Scientific Personnel Work in the Army," Professor Thorndike remarks: "Making psychology for business or industry or the army is harder than making psychology for other psychologists, and intrinsically requires higher talents." It is well that a man should believe whole-heartedly in his own work and magnify it accordingly. But it is a pity to draw comparisons of this sort.

Reduced to its lowest terms, Professor Thorndike's question is: Which is the harder taskmaster, one's employer or one's conscience? And he decides unequivocally in favor of the employer. I should rather say: It depends! For Professor Thorndike, the employer is a creature of iron, who demands an adequate solution of a given problem by a fixed and early date, and who has no grain of sympathy with unsuccessful work and the unsuccessful worker. It is possible, however, that the employer might extend the date: even if he had not the good will, he might be obliged to. It is possible also that he might sympathize with the unsuccessful work, enter into it, and find in it something worthy of commendation and even of publication. Conscience, on the other hand, is for Professor Thorndike an easy mistress; she allows you yourself to ask the questions for which you proceed to find answers. That sort of conscience seems to me to pertain to the dilettante rather than to the man of science. To the scientific investigator the whole front of his science is one great problem, and he plunges in where the obscurity is thickest. He may hesitate between two or three calls: experimental psychologists have, in recent years, been divided on the question whether the problem of perception or the problem of thought is the more insistent: but Professor Thorn-