

President Eliot, but he threw himself into the duties of the office with characteristic energy, devotion, and elevation of ideals. It was his ambition to make the school as good as any school of applied science anywhere, and he strove for that end.

Whether the history and fate of the school would have been notably different if it had included undergraduate programs of study, is, fortunately, a question we need not discuss. For it is now possible to undertake the experiment of building up at Harvard a school of applied science second to none in its higher reaches but standing on a base of directed undergraduate work done within Harvard walls. In this undertaking we can have no better ideals than those which Sabine's deanship kept always before us.

When this deanship ended, he returned gladly to the work of teaching and research, and but for the war he would probably have had before him a long career of growing usefulness and fame, and would have lived to a vigorous old age according to the habit of his ancestors. But from that fiery furnace into which other men were drawn by millions he could not hold himself back. He would have felt recreant if he had escaped unscathed. Going to France in 1916 with the intention of giving a course of lectures as exchange professor at the Sorbonne in the fall, he engaged during the summer in the work of conducting tuberculous patients from the French hospitals to Switzerland, an enterprise undertaken by the Rockefeller Foundation. Overworking in this, he was attacked during the fall by a disease which nearly ended his life and compelled the postponement of his Sorbonne lectures. When he was able to be moved, he went back to Switzerland, this time as a patient; but he gained strength studying French constantly meanwhile, and in the spring of 1917 gave his lectures, on architectural acoustics, in Paris. These ended, he went through some months of extreme activity in the technical science service of the allied governments. Returning to America in the late fall, he went on with similar work in Washington, and elsewhere, coming to Cam-

bridge for his lectures every week, eating and sleeping when and where he could, always too busy for the surgical operation which his physical condition demanded. He refused military rank, declaring, with that severity of judgment which sometimes verged upon intolerance, that the uniform should be worn only by those who were subject to the dangers and labors of the front. But he risked his life constantly, and at last fatally, in the service of the country and the university.

We have known in him a rare spirit, and we reverence his memory.

EDWIN H. HALL,  
C. N. GREENOUGH,  
P. W. BRIDGEMAN,  
*Committee*

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### THE GASPÉ BIRD RESERVES

THE Parliament of the Province of Quebec, in its present session, has passed a law creating, on very broad lines, the remaining lodges of water-fowl on the shores and the islands of the Gulf of St. Lawrence into one great Bird Reserve to be under the administrative control of the Minister of Fisheries. Three definite areas are embraced within this protective provision, all of which are within the county of Gaspé.

1. Percé Rock, the picturesque and brilliant Devonian Island which lies a few rods off the coast of Percé village. Its bird colony is constituted of the Herring Gull and the Crested Cormorant.

2. The east and north cliffs of Bonaventure Island which lies three miles out from Percé. Here is probably the largest surviving colony of the Gannet with its customary associates—the Kittiwake, Razor-billed Auk, Puffin, Guillemot and Murre. The law takes over the entire face of the high cliffs where the two colonies on this Island are located and also a belt of land ten feet back from the edge of the cliffs.

3. The celebrated but now somewhat depleted colony of the Bird Rock, northernmost of the Magdalen Islands, 124 miles out to sea from Percé, in the heart of the Gulf.

The provisions of the law are rigorous. No one shall take or molest the birds, nests or eggs, nor carry a gun or other hunting gear within a mile of the sites indicated, either by land or water, under severe penalty of fine or imprisonment; and if a boat is used in violation of this law it is liable to confiscation. The law is made so broad as to include all migratory game, non-game and insectivorous birds as specified under the international treaty for the protection of such birds.

The extraordinary character of this law now in force is that it affords protection to a class of water-fowl which are commonly regarded as having little to do with the economic interests of mankind, and it specifically takes cognizance of the fact that these creatures are entitled to protection because of their natural beauty, their scientific interest and the part that they play in the scheme of nature. There could be no better indication of the liberal and high-minded sentiment of the Province of Quebec than this enactment which was initiated in the Parliament by the Honorable Honoré Mercier, Minister of Fisheries, in response to the labors and urgent representations of those who have had the interests of these colonies at heart. The Province of Quebec has thus created one of the largest bird reserves in the western continent and has erected a monument which is greatly to the credit of its own high-minded sentiment.

JOHN M. CLARKE

#### REORGANIZATION OF FARM MANAGEMENT OFFICE

REORGANIZATION and expansion of the Office of Farm Management of the United States Department of Agriculture is recommended by the committee of farm management leaders and others appointed some time ago by Secretary Houston to study the work of farm management and outline projects for more extensive studies.

The committee is made up of the following economists and students of farm crops: H. C. Taylor, agricultural economics, University of Wisconsin; George F. Warren, farm management, Cornell University; Andrew Boss, agronomy

and farm management, University of Minnesota; J. A. Foord, agriculture and farm management, Massachusetts Agricultural College; J. I. Falconer, rural economics, Ohio State University; R. L. Adams, farm management, University of California; G. I. Christie, assistant Secretary of Agriculture, and representatives of the Bureau of Crop Estimates, the Bureau of Markets and the Office of Farm Management of the Department of Agriculture.

The basic recommendation of the committee is that the office be expanded to include both farm management and farm economics and that it be established as a bureau under the name of Bureau of Farm Management and Farm Economics. This, the committee states, it recommends "in recognition of the work already accomplished in farm economics along with the investigational work in farm management and in view of the great need for still further studies of the farming business."

Practically all of the changes recommended are in the nature of expansion and improvement rather than of creation. The system recommended for studies in cost of production is much more comprehensive than that heretofore used. "We have reviewed the projects now under way," the committee says, "and wish to commend their continuance and development." Some projects, it is thought, should be continued under other names. Some that are related to agronomy and some to other subjects, says the committee, "should perhaps be transferred to some other bureau of the department, securing the information or data desired on these lines through cooperative relations rather than independent action." In the projects underway, a great deal of work has been found that, the committee thinks, could be more profitably included under the term "Farm economics."

The work of the bureau, in the opinion of the committee, should be grouped around the following projects: Cost of production, including financial records, enterprise records, complete cost records, price relations and basic unit factors; farm organization, including farm business analysis, farm practise, effective