

first-class training institutions and research laboratories, as well as colleges. These matters are, it is stated, of such overwhelming importance that they must not be permitted to become a class or caste question; there is little danger of this at the present time for already the intellectual men in Germany are combining forces in various directions: this is so in the case of the technical man and the academician, as well as in that of the artificer and the university professor. Finally, an inventors' institute must be founded in order that the inventor may be furnished with advice, the commercial possibilities of his work tested, a selection made of what is best, and a good market found for that which is of real worth.

#### APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

THE Kansas legislature of 1919 appropriated a total of \$1,675,500 for the support of the Kansas State Agricultural College for the biennium July 1, 1919, to June 30, 1921. This appropriation is in addition to the amount set apart for extension and demonstration work in accordance with the terms of the Smith-Lever Act. In accordance with this law, the legislature appropriated \$63,073.65 for 1919-20 and \$75,203.20 for 1920-21, the federal government supplying a like amount for each year of the biennium. The appropriations for the college proper represent an increase of more than \$400,000 or approximately 33 per cent., over the appropriation for the present biennium.

One hundred and ninety thousand dollars was appropriated for completing the central part of Engineering Hall. This will more than double the floor space and will house the electrical engineering department which is now located temporarily in Denison Hall. It will also permit of the proper growth and development of the department of farm engineering. More space will be made available for the physics department, and the chemistry department will be able to expand its quarters. The erection of the new portions of the building will also afford proper coal storage facilities, thus economizing tremendously on labor.

Work on the building will be begun at once as the sum of \$50,000 is available immediately.

The biennial appropriations also include \$12,500 for a new water plant for the college, and \$10,000 for a new hog plant, buildings and equipment. Ten thousand dollars will be spent in the two years in testing road materials for the state highway commission, the Agricultural College having been made the official testing laboratory for the commission. Forty thousand dollars was appropriated for repairs and improvements each year—an increase of 60 per cent. over the present appropriation. The appropriation for the support of the Agricultural Experiment Station will be increased from \$40,000 to \$55,000 each year of the biennium.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. GEORGE FERDINAND BECKER, geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey since 1879, died in Washington on April 20, at the age of seventy-two years.

THE Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology is meeting this week at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. The societies included in the federation are: The Physiological Society, the Society of Biological Chemists, the Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics and the Society for Experimental Pathology.

THE annual meeting of the Association of American Anatomists was held from April 17 to 19 in Pittsburgh under the presidency of Robert R. Bensley, of the University of Chicago.

THE executive committee of the American Society of Zoologists has voted to hold the annual Christmas meeting in 1919 in St. Louis in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

PROFESSOR ROLAND THAXTER, professor of cryptogamic botany at Harvard University since 1901, has been appointed professor emeritus.

THE Distinguished Service Medal has been awarded to Colonel John J. Carty "for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services.