

died of malaria, at Gibraltar, on October 6. Dr. Hopkins was known as an international authority on soils. He had closed a year's work in reclamation studies of the worn soils of Greece and was on his way home when illness compelled his removal from the steamer.

THE British prime minister has written to Lord Ernle (Mr. R. E. Prothero) a letter on his resignation of the presidency of the Board of Agriculture. Mr. Lloyd George says: "On behalf of the government I wish to thank you for the invaluable services you rendered the country during your remarkable tenure of office. Your chieftainship at the board marked an epoch in the history of British agriculture. It was the beginning of a departure which will soon, not only restore British land cultivation to its past prosperity, but lead it on to even greater heights of achievement. I feel a great pride in the fact that your work was done entirely during my premiership."

PREPARATIONS are being made for a conference of physiologists at Paris in July, 1920. The meeting is being organized by representatives from Great Britain, France and America, and invitations are to be sent to the neutral nations.

A BILL has recently been passed by the Canadian House of Commons creating a Federal Department of Health. The bill provides for a minister of health, and an advisory council. The authority of the new department will extend to all matters affecting health within the jurisdiction of the Canadian government.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

By the will of the late Richard M. Colgate, Colgate University receives a bequest of \$100,000 to be used for the erection of a dormitory. Mr. Colgate also left \$100,000 to Yale for the establishment of a professorship "for the advancement of the intellectual teaching of freshmen students."

THE Bureau of Education has published a circular showing the increase of salaries of college teachers made during the last academic

year and voted for the present year. Increases of ten per cent., or over for the last year are reported by 72 per cent. of the institutions for full professors, 51 per cent. for assistant professors and 52 per cent. for instructors. Of the institutions which reported an increase of over ten per cent. for the year 1920, 74 per cent. reported increases for full professors, 59 per cent. for assistant professors and 46 per cent. for instructors. It is noticeable that many larger institutions do not appear on the list of those which provided increases in salary in either year.

DR. DANIEL RUSSELL HADGDON, head of the Newark College of Technology, Newark, N. J., has been elected president of the Hahnemann College and Medical School, of Chicago. He is the author of works on "General Science," and "Applied Physics."

E. V. HUNTINGTON, associate professor of mathematics in Harvard University, has been promoted to a full professorship in mechanics. His teaching activities will be divided as heretofore between the division of mathematics and the division of engineering.

PAUL B. SEARS has accepted an assistant professorship of botany in the University of Nebraska and has begun his work there. He was formerly an instructor in the Ohio State University and during the war was a lieutenant in aviation. Previously he had been assistant in botany in the University of Nebraska.

DR. A. R. C. HAAS has been appointed associate professor of plant physiology in the University of California, Graduate School of Tropical Agriculture and at the Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside. He is engaged chiefly with studies in plant nutrition.

DR. B. W. WELLS, formerly of the University of Arkansas, has taken charge of the department of botany in the North Carolina State College. Mr. I. V. Shunk, of the University of West Virginia, has been appointed instructor in the same department.

PROFESSOR NEWLAND F. SMITH, of Centre College, Danville, Ky., has accepted a position as head of the department of physics in The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, at Charleston. He will commence his

work here as soon as his successor at Centre College is secured.

DR. H. L. IBSEN has been appointed assistant professor of animal husbandry, at the University of Wisconsin.

DR. FRANK C. GATES, formerly professor of biology at Carthage College, is now assistant professor of botany in charge of the herbarium at the Kansas State Agricultural College, at Manhattan Kansas.

MR. C. E. ALLRED has been appointed chief of the new Department of Agricultural Economics in the University of Tennessee. This department is to embrace all work done in farm economics, farm management and rural sociology. Research work in these subjects is being planned. Previous to taking up this work Mr. Allred was farm management specialist for Tennessee.

DR. WILLIAM F. PROUTY, assistant state geologist of Alabama since 1906, and professor of geology and mineralogy at the University of Alabama since 1912, has resigned to accept the professorship of stratigraphic geology at the University of North Carolina.

DR. DOUGLAS R. SEMMES, formerly professor of geology in the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, and recently engaged in oil work in the Texas fields, has been elected associate professor of geology in the University of Alabama to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. Prouty.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

SNOW-ROLLERS

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The wind-blown snowballs described by Mr. L. E. Woodman in your issue of August 30, p. 210-211, are known to meteorologists as "snow-rollers," and are rather frequently reported. The most extensive account of snow-rollers in the English language is that given in the *Quarterly Journal* of the Royal Meteorological Society, Vol. 34, 1908, p. 87-96. This is mainly a compilation of accounts of the phenomenon previously published in scientific books and journals, and is illustrated. Some of these accounts appeared in the Monthly Weather

Review (published by the U. S. Weather Bureau). Probably the most important contribution to the subject of snow-rollers is the article "Schneewalzen," by Rudolf Meyer, in *Korrespondenzblatt des Naturforscher-Vereins zu Riga*, Vol. 52, 1909. This gives a list and analysis of all cases known to the writer between the years 1808 and 1909, and is accompanied by a bibliography which lists 35 previous papers on the subject in several languages.

C. F. TALMAN

U. S. WEATHER BUREAU,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: I was much interested in Professor Woodman's account of "A Snow Effect," in your issue of August 29. Years ago, at the time of the great blizzard in 1888, I saw the snow rolled up by the wind into pillow-like balls in Clay County, Kansas, and these snowballs were actually rolled uphill. The wind was very strong from the northwest and the snowballs were formed on slopes facing the northwest. The following note is taken from my diary of the time:

January 12, 1888.—In the morning we had wind and snow from the southeast, which gradually changed to the southwest. The snow was very soft and moist and about six inches deep. At three o'clock P.M. the wind changed to the northwest, blowing very strong and cold, which rolled the snow up into large rolls like pillows, some being two feet in diameter and three feet long, and some even larger. In some places more than a dozen could be counted on a square acre.

These pillow-like balls were narrow in the center and became wider toward the outside, leaving a sort of funnel-like depression at each end.

JOHN H. SCHAFFNER

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY,
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: A snow effect similar to that reported by Professor Woodman in your issue of August 29 occurred last spring at Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

The parade ground at the Fort was dotted one morning by snow balls. I thought, on