

University of Liverpool as a contribution to the appeal for funds.

TEN members are reported by the *Journal* of the American Association to have resigned from the faculty of the Marquette University School of Medicine on account of a disagreement between them and the president over several ethical questions, one of which is that of sacrificing an unborn infant when necessary to save the life of the mother.

PROFESSOR J. H. CLO, of Tulane University, has accepted the position of professor and head of the department of physics at the University of Pittsburgh.

DR. HIRAM BYRD, now of the University of Mississippi, has accepted an invitation to become head of a new department of hygiene to be established at the University of Alabama.

LEO F. PIERCE, professor of chemistry at Washburn College, has resigned to work for a doctor's degree at Tulane University.

DR. CHARLES LOUIS MIX has accepted the position of head of the department of medicine of Loyola University School of Medicine.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE RENEWAL OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE SCIENTIFIC MEN OF EUROPE

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: A flood of publications is now coming in from all parts of Europe, especially from the long pent-up workers of France, of Austria, and of Germany, as well as in lesser degree from those of Great Britain and the Scandinavian countries. The German and French publications are as elegant in form and appearance as of old. The Austrian publications show very stringent conditions.

Arrangements are being made for coming scientific congresses and meetings. Certainly so far as science is related to human progress and welfare, it was never more widely needed all over Europe or all over the world than at the present moment. Certainly no one would shut off a British discovery, which would double the productive value of wheat, from the people of the ancient Central Empires.

Certainly also any discovery made by savants of the Central Empires, which would mitigate human suffering or extend our knowledge, should be immediately transmitted to the people of the former Allied Powers. I, for one, am in favor of renewing scientific relations with the people of all countries of the world irrespective of whether they have been fighting with or against me in the great war for civilization. On this subject we have recently received very wise counsel from an entirely neutral party, Svante Arrhenius and his confrères. I may also quote from a letter of January 12, 1920, received from Arrhenius:

I was very glad to receive your kind letter of December 3. I am in the highest degree thankful to you for your decision to keep up the perfect internationality of the Eugenics Congress. Now France and England have peace with Germany, and in old times it was always written in the peace treaties that the contracting parties should live on the best footing for the time to come. . . . Before the war the situation in Europe was one cause of the expensive armaments such that every German believed a (short) war would be much cheaper than the steadily increasing military expenses.

In Austria the common expression was, "Lieber ein Ende mit Elend, als ein Elend ohne Ende." Now they have in reality the "Ende mit Elend." People are starving to death, many thousands every day. The children are infected with tuberculosis. The professors have their salaries of 12,000 kronen, which is now about 100 dollars, a year. The institutions are not heated. Series of experiments, which have taken many years, must be given up. The better classes are giving their clothes and their family relics for getting some foodstuffs from the peasants, who do not take the valueless paper money. The coal mines, which belonged to the companies in Vienna, have been given to the peasants of the state of Bohemia, which is according to letters from a Bohemian patriot under a bolshevist government, enriching itself and its friends through bribery. No coals are sent to Vienna, which is beset by starvation and cold. What have these old agreeable people in Vienna committed that they should be extirpated. . . .

From one of the most eminent men in Vienna, in fact, one of the most brilliant men in his subject in Europe, a colleague has received the following:

I perceive from your letter that my friend Dollo, whom I had informed of the critical conditions here with us, turned for aid to my friend Osborn. In fact, the past winter in Vienna was literally frightful. Your people have done a great deal for our children and in this way have aided materially in reducing the number of cases of sickness due to privation and hunger. The circumstance that Austria is reduced by the peace treaty to a relatively small country, and especially that it is limited to the mountain territories, which could not previously raise their own food supplies, and under the present bad conditions are still less able to provide for themselves, has shaped the situation since the end of the war for a catastrophe, as we are surrounded all about by new states which in part are unwilling to help us, as with Czechoslovakia and Hungary and Jugoslavia, and in part are unable to help because they themselves are in want, as with Germany. . . . Up to the present time destitution has attained terrible dimensions with us, and people have been dying like flies. The middle classes especially have been most heavily affected by these conditions as they were in no position to pass over to other classes the enormous increase in prices occasioned by the destitution, as the business and labor classes were enabled to do. We can only hope that as soon as political conditions will permit, Austria, now so much reduced in size and productivity in consequence of its geographical limitations that it will scarcely in the future be self-supporting, may be able to shape up some possibility for a continued existence. . . . (April 4, 1920.)

Despite these circumstances the writer of the above letter has succeeded in publishing a monumental work, printed on paper of the poorest quality, which must be used by all American students.

I have taken the liberty of quoting from these personal letters from two men in the very front rank in Europe, in order to present the actual situation to some of my colleagues who are still in doubt as to what their attitude should be. We geologists can not cut off communication with a country which has produced Edouard Suess. We paleontologists welcome the works of Othenio Abel.

As regards others, with whom personal relations are less close, I have decided neither to forgive nor to forget nor to extenuate, but to

carry on. In brief, I find that it is my duty to renew scientific relations with all the specialists of Europe who are engaged in my lines of work, regardless of past or present geographic boundaries. Needless to say, I am now renewing personal relations with my former friends and colleagues, whatever their nationality.

HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN

AMERICAN MUSEUM,
NEW YORK,
May 12, 1920

THE METEOR OF NOVEMBER 26, 1919

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: From the Climatological Data, Michigan Section for November, 1919, issued from the Grand Rapids, Michigan Weather Bureau Office under the heading of "Remarks of Observers" on page 132, the following has been taken:

Newberry—A large and brilliant meteor was observed at about 8 P.M. of the 26th; it looked to be about 38 inches in diameter. It was first seen in the southwest—rather low but considerably above the horizon—with its course southeastward and downward. At a point about 9° west of south, and near the horizon, it appeared to be bursting like a rocket as it sank from view.

This probably is an observation of the same meteor which was noticed in southern Michigan and supposed to have fallen into Lake Michigan near its southern end. This observation is 300 miles or more north of the previously supposed position of the meteor's descent.

WILLIAM KELLY

VULCAN, MICH.

FORMULÆ FOR DATES

IN my formulæ for finding the day of the week of any date (SCIENCE, May 21, 1920, p. 513) the explanation of the method of finding the value of the symbol L is not sufficiently clear for dates in centennial years. The following modification is therefore offered: L is the number of leapdays (not counting the one in a centennial year, if any) preceding the date and subsequent to the beginning of the centennial year having the