

of research. Cooperation seems to be the slogan to-day and the National Research Council, created as a war measure, is functioning to stimulate research in all of these institutions of the country in a cooperative way. Botany certainly has not been neglected as evidenced by the fundamental physiological work on fertilizers and the growing of wheat, and the fundamental work in connection with the treatment of plant diseases which will be taken up by the Research Council through the Crop Protection Institute in a cooperative way. Cooperation in every line is desirable, but is it not a fact that all great discoveries are made by individuals? These individuals should have plenty of equipment and help, and each should have a free hand to work out his or her problem.

In conclusion the plea I desire to make is that the botanist should enter more vigorously into the exploitation of fields of agronomic work, ecology and taxonomic work, as it is related to horticulture and agriculture. We have allowed some splendid fields of work to slip away from us, largely because we were indifferent to the problems of agriculture. This is not true of plant pathology which has made itself felt along economic lines. It is true that some phases of plant breeding, physiology and soil relations of plants are masquerading under various forms of agriculture and horticulture. It is not my aim to belittle much that has been accomplished by horticulturists and agriculturists, but this work, when botanical, should find its place under the head of botany. Let us look for a new era in botanical work. Then the various phases of the work will find their rightful place, not only in our teaching, but in our research as well.

L. H. PAMMEL

IOWA STATE COLLEGE

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BOWDOIN MEDICAL SCHOOL

THE Bowdoin Medical School, established a century ago by Maine's first legislature, will be closed as a department of Bowdoin College at the end of the current year next June, un-

less by that time it receives financial support.

The following announcement has been made by President Kenneth C. M. Sills by authority of the boards of trustees and overseers.

By action of the board of trustees and overseers the Bowdoin Medical School will be finally closed as a department of Bowdoin College at the end of the current year, June, 1921, unless by that time some way shall be found to meet the requirements necessary to keep the school in Class A of American medical colleges. It has been conservatively estimated that for this purpose there must be an addition to the resources of the school of \$25,000 for immediate equipment of laboratories and of at least \$50,000 yearly income for more teachers and for up-keep. Unfortunately at the present time the college sees no way of procuring such funds; the need of such an endowment has often been placed before the people of Maine, but the appeals have never received an adequate response.

The college will not apply for state aid for the school. But if the citizens of Maine and the friends of medical education who believe that the maintenance of a medical school is properly a state function, desire to have the medical school reestablished as a state institution under state control and adequately supported by the state, Bowdoin College will be glad to give all assistance possible to that end, and would doubtless offer for such a purpose for temporary use, if desired, such part of the buildings and apparatus of the college as might be available.

The trustees and overseers of the college believe that there is a place for a medical school in Maine and are hopeful that the people of the state, despite the great demands on the incoming legislature, will establish such a school as a state institution, around which all the medical and public health work of the state would be centered.

THE DIRECTORSHIP OF THE BUREAU OF MINES

DR. F. G. COTTRELL, director of the United States Bureau of Mines, on December 31, handed his resignation to the President, through Secretary of the Interior Payne. He leaves the bureau to take up his duties as chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the National Research Council. Dr. Cottrell recommends as his successor H. Foster Bain, of California, whose

name was formally presented to the President. In his letter of resignation, Dr. Cottrell said:

I hereby tender you my resignation as director of the Bureau of Mines, to take effect January 1, 1921.

In so doing, may I recall to your mind that, in accepting this position upon the resignation of Director Manning last June, I explained to the secretary of the interior that I had previously made all my plans to resign from the position I then occupied as assistant director and to give my undivided attention to the position of chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the National Research Council, which I had accepted as successor to Professor W. D. Bancroft, who was retiring July first.

I accepted appointment as director of the Bureau of Mines on the understanding with Secretary Payne that I would continue therein until an available successor should be found who was thoroughly acceptable to him and to the mining industry.

The time having now arrived when Secretary Payne is ready to recommend a successor, I am placing my resignation in his hands for transmittal to you.

It is with the pleasantest recollections that I look back over my decade of service in various capacities within the bureau, and as the greater part of this time has fallen within your own administration, it gives me particular pleasure to tell you of the uniform courtesy and high standard of public service which I have always encountered in my contact with both associates and superiors throughout the whole department.

It would be with very deep feelings of personal regret that I should take the present step were it not that the position in the Research Council will still permit me to cooperate very closely with those particular aspects of the bureau's work for which I feel myself best fitted.

At the same time Secretary Payne handed to the President the appointment of H. Foster Bain, of California, as successor to Dr. Cottrell.

Mr. Bain was educated and trained as a geologist and mining engineer. He was one of Herbert Hoover's assistants in London on the Belgian relief work during the war. Before that he was editor of the Mining and Scientific Press of San Francisco, Calif., and later the editor of the Mining Magazine of London,

England. He made some important mining investigations in south and central Africa and later undertook similar investigations in China. At one time he was a mine operator in Colorado and once was connected with the United States Geological Survey. Subsequently, he was the first director of the Geological Survey of Illinois. For a time during the war Mr. Bain was assistant director of the United States Bureau of Mines, following up production and manufacture of metal products, explosives, and other chemical substances for war purposes. At the close of the war Mr. Bain returned to private life. Mr. Bain was born at Seymour, Indiana. Graduating from Moore's Hill College, Indiana, in 1890, he spent two years at Johns Hopkins University and later received his doctor's degree from the University of Chicago.

INTERNATIONAL EUGENICS CONGRESS

IN 1912 there was held in London, under the auspices of the Eugenics Education Society, an International Eugenics Congress. A second congress was planned to be held in New York City in 1915 but, on account of the war, plans for the congress were abandoned. In the autumn of 1919, at a meeting of the International Committee of Eugenics held in London, it was agreed to hold the second International Congress in New York City in 1921. A general committee to arrange for this congress was selected by the National Research Council in the spring of 1920, and it is now announced that the preliminary announcement of the Second International Congress of Eugenics will be held in New York City, September 22-28, 1921.

Of this Congress Dr. Alexander Graham Bell is honorary president; Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, president; Mr. Madison Grant, treasurer; Mrs. C. Neville Rolfe (Mrs. Sybil Gotto) honorary secretary; and Dr. C. O. Little, secretary-general. The vice-presidents include Dr. Cesare Arton, Cagliari Italy; Dr. Kristine Bonnevie, Institute for Heredity Investigation, University of Christiania, Norway; Major Leonard Darwin, London; Dr. V. Delfino Buenos Aires; Dr. E. M. East,