Virginia on the morning of December 24. The loss is largely, if not entirely, covered by insurance and there will be little interruption to the regular laboratory work.

The inauguration of President Wallace D. Atwood, of Clark College, will take place on February 1. Presidents and representatives from more than two hundred colleges have signified their intention of being present at the exercises.

Dr. Henry Rand Hatfield, professor of accounting on the Flood Foundation in the University of California, has been appointed dean of the faculties of the State University of California to succeed Professor John C. Merriam, who resigned to accept the presidency of the Carnegie Institution in Washington.

At the College of the City of New York, Professor Herbert R. Moody has been appointed professor of chemical engineering within the department of chemistry; Assistant Professor W. L. Prager has been promoted to an associate professorship, and Mr. Joseph A. Babor has been promoted to an instructorship.

Dr. Ardrey W. Downs, formerly assistant professor of physiology at McGill University, has been appointed to the chair of physiology in the University of Alberta.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

ANTHROPOMETRIC MEASUREMENTS

During the sessions of two International Congresses of Anthropology, in 1906 at Monaco, and in 1912 at Geneva, rules were drawn up for the standardizing of the more usual anthropometric measurements. The work was undertaken in each case by a committee, and the official reports were published by certain members to whom this duty was assigned.

The prescription of 1906 included measurements of the skull and of the head and facial features of the living. It was published in the French language by Dr. Papillault and appeared in the pages of *L'Anthropologie* (Vol. 17, 1906, pp. 559–572). The prescription of 1912 was the work of a larger and more representative committee, which aside from French, German and Italian members, included representatives of Great Britain, the United States, Russia, and Switzerland, countries not included in the former report. The official reporters of this prescription, which included measurements of the living body, exclusive of those of the head and face, were Drs. Rivêt, Schlaginhaufen and Duckworth, who published their reports in French, German and English, respectively.

Having these data in mind I was led to state, in the preface to my recent "Manual of Anthropometry," that the official reports of the prescription of 1912 were published only on the other side of the Atlantic, and appeared in an American journal for the first time in 1919, when Dr. Duckworth's official report was reprinted by Dr. Hrdlička in his new *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*.

While this statement, concerning the three *official* reports only, is strictly true, I should have mentioned that equally accurate and trustworthy reports were published in other countries, and especially should I have cited that of Dr. MacCurdy, also a member of the committee. His report in full of the prescription of 1912 was translated at the time of the Congress for Dr. Rivêt's official copy, and appeared, later in the same year, in both Science and the *American Anthropologist*. Had I noticed this earlier, I should certainly have brought it to the attention of the readers of my book, and wish to take this opportunity to rectify my unintentional neglect.

The citations referred to are the following:

Science: N. S., Vol. 36, No. 931, Nov. 1, 1912, pp. 603–608.

Amer. Anthropol., Vol. 14, No. 4, Oct.–Dec., 1912, pp. 621–631.

Harris Hawthorne Wilder
Smith College,
Northampton, Mass.,
December 17, 1920

A NEW DIKE NEAR ITHACA, N. Y.

Considerable attention has been given by geologists to the dikes of central New York.

Each newly discovered one is of interest and perhaps a note should be made of the occurrence of a rather large dike recently found. It has been exposed at the eastern side of the Portland cement quarry east of Shurger Point, six miles north of Ithaca. It is the first of the Ithaca region dikes found in limestone and is exposed for the height of the Tully limestone at the north and south walls of the quarry and in the shales along the quarry bed.

No contact action was noticed. In places there is a thin calcite streak at the side of the dike, in others there is a tight contact between dike and wall rock. Striæ on the calcite gave evidence of horizontal movement. The dike varies in width from 11″ to 18″ and is decidedly green, due to the serpentine in it. It strikes about N 3° E., parallel to the dip joints, like all the dikes near Ithaca. There may be some connection between this dike and a group of smaller dikes east of Ludlowville, two miles to the north.

PEARL SHELDON

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

THE HAWAIIAN OLONA

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In SCIENCE[1] for September 10, 1920, p. 240, Mr. Vaughan MacCaughey again calls attention to the remarkably durable fiber of the Hawaiian Olonâ, and quotes Dr. N. Russel's rather inaccurate account of the people making the fiber and its products, fish nets and cords, some used especially for fish-lines. In view of the possible importance of this product, it seems worth while to correct certain statements. The name of the bird caught for its yellow feathers was O-o not O-u. As late as 1864, when the present writer first visited the Hawaiian Islands, there were some natives at Olaa still beating the mamake kapa and twisting the olonâ fiber on their thighs. On the island of Molokai, as late as 1889 a photograph was taken of a native scraping the fiber. Surely Mr. MacCaughey must be aware that in the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, is a fine cast from life of a native preparing this fine fiber, and there are many specimens of both the raw material, the finished product and the *laau kahioloná* or scraper which was sometimes a shell *papaua* (*Meleagrina margaritifera*) but more commonly a sharpened bone from the back of the *honu*, a sea turtle not a (fish, as Dr. Russel has it). The boards were made of any hard wood; the *naou* of Dr. Russel was perhaps the *naio*, or bastard sandalwood.

As a specimen of the remarkable durability of the fiber, there is in the Bishop Museum a ball of fish-line used by the Kamehamehas for a hundred years and it is still in perfect condition.

WILLIAM T. BRIGHAM

[1] N. S., Vol. LII., No. 1341.

QUOTATIONS

PROFESSOR MICHELSON ON THE APPLICATION OF INTERFERENCE METHODS TO ASTRONOMICAL MEASUREMENTS

THE first information Professor A. S. Eddington, Plumian professor of astronomy at Cambridge University, received that his theoretical deductions concerning the angular diameters of certain stars and of the Betelgeuse, in particular, had been confirmed by Professor Michelson [in his paper at the Chicago meeting] was from a cable message from the *New York Times*. He was extremely interested and delighted at the results obtained and is anxiously awaiting full details.

Talking to the *New York Times* correspondent he pointed out that many years ago Professor Michelson suggested a plan for measuring, at any rate to a much greater degree of accuracy than before, diameters of stars by the wave theory of light.

"For some time now," he said, "they have been carrying on these experiments at Mount Wilson, and I presume that it is there that these most interesting results have been obtained. The great difficulty that they have had to contend with has, of course, been what is known as atmospheric tremor. They have been trying Michelson's methods and previously had obtained some very interesting results, but these were only with regard to very close double stars. By this means they got some very successful results with double stars, but when they