

laurin, formerly president. Reginald H. Smithwick, of Boston, president of the senior class and chairman of the Institute Committee, placed a wreath on the memorial which has been erected in memory of Dr. Maclaurin in the lobby of the Walker Memorial building.

We learn from the *Journal* of the Washington Academy of Sciences that Mr. Ralph W. Howell, geologist with the U. S. Geological Survey, was killed by native raiders in Beluchistan in the latter part of November, 1920. He was engaged at the time in oil exploratory work for Pearson & Son, of London, and was working near the Beluchistan-Punjab border in an area that had been considered safe from bandits. Mr. Howell was born in 1886, and had been a member of the Survey staff since 1913. He was granted leave of absence from the survey in October, 1919, to engage in private work.

On December 21, at a conference between representatives of the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture held in the office of the secretary of commerce, the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture made known its willingness to withdraw from future investigations of fishery products, and at the same time agreed to ask Congress to transfer to the Bureau of Fisheries the item for fish investigations included in the pending estimates for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1921.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE faculty of Mount Holyoke College has voted to raise a fund of \$100,000 to endow the president's chair in recognition of Miss Mary E. Woolley's twenty years' service as president of Mount Holyoke.

THE first Congress of the Universities of the British Empire was held in London in 1912 when all, to the number of fifty-three, were represented. It was decided to hold the congresses every five years, but the war made it impossible to do so in 1917. The second congress will accordingly be held in the summer of 1921. The number of British univer-

sities has in the meantime increased to fifty-eight.

PROFESSOR EUGENE TAYLOR, of the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed head of the department of mathematics at the University of Idaho.

DOAK B. CARRICK has been elected professor of pomology, and Arno H. Nehrling assistant professor of floriculture in the college of agriculture, Cornell University.

PROFESSOR EDWIN T. HODGE, head of the department of mining geology in the University of British Columbia, has joined the department of geology of the University of Oregon.

THE *Bulletin* of the American Mathematical Society states that in the faculty of sciences of the University of Paris, the following changes have been made: Dr. Emile Borel, professor of the theory of functions, has been appointed professor of the calculus of probabilities and mathematical physics, as successor to Professor B. J. Boussinesq, who has retired; Dr. Paul Painlevé, professor of rational mechanics, has been appointed professor of analytical and celestial mechanics, as successor to Professor Paul Appell; Professor Elie Cartan succeeds Professor Painlevé in the chair of rational mechanics, and Professor Ernest Vessiot, recently appointed assistant director of the Ecole normale supérieure, succeeds Professor Cartan in the chair of the differential calculus; Dr. J. Drach has been appointed professor of general mathematics, and Dr. Paul Montel maître de conférences in mathematics.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### A METEOR FALL IN THE ATLANTIC

It may be of interest to put on record the subjoined account of a fall of meteorites, that was reported in the *New York Times*, of November 5, 1906, a clipping from which paper I have just come across. The fall was observed from the Phoenix Line steamship "St. Andrew," en route from Antwerp to New York, on October 30, 1906, "about 600 miles northeast of Cape Race." The more