

League of Nations. The commission plans to organize a world health institution separate from the International Health Office of the Red Cross, to which the United States belongs.

DR. A. B. SROUT, of the N. Y. Botanical Garden, has spent two weeks at the State Experimental Station at Geneva, N. Y., in making further study of flower types in grapes and in the work of breeding for seedless sorts of hardy grapes. This work is being done in cooperation with the Department of Horticulture of the Experimental Station.

DR. GUSTAV T. TROEDSSON, privat-docent at the Geological Institute at Lund, Sweden, is accompanying Professor Percy E. Raymond, of Harvard University, on the third of the Shaler Memorial Expeditions for the study of the Ordovician in the southern Appalachians.

DR. J. W. KIMBALL, formerly research chemist at Delta Laboratory, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., Arlington, N. J., has joined the staff of the National Aniline and Chemical Co., as research chemist at their works at Marcus Hook, Pa.

WE learn from *Nature* that a medal, to be known as the Meldola medal, will be presented annually by the Society of Maccabæans for the most noteworthy chemical work of the year carried out by a British subject who is not more than thirty years of age on completing the work. The award will be made by the council of the Institute of Chemistry acting with one member of the Society of Maccabæans, and power to vary the conditions of award is vested in the committee of the society and the council of the institute acting jointly. The object of instituting the medal is to recognize merit among the younger generation of chemists and to perpetuate the memory of Professor Raphael Meldola, the distinguished chemist who served as president both of the society presenting the medal and of the Institute of Chemistry. It is hoped that the first presentation will be made at the annual general meeting of the Institute of Chemistry on March 1, 1922.

At a meeting of the Royal College of Sur-

geons of Edinburgh, held on July 18, the president, Dr. George Mackay, presented to the College a portrait of the late Lord Lister. The picture is a full-sized copy made by Mr. Dorfield Hardy of the portrait painted by W. Ouless, R. A., in the possession of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. In accepting the portrait on behalf of the College, the vice-president, Dr. McKenzie Johnston, expressed the satisfaction the college had in acquiring this memorial of its most distinguished fellow through the generosity of their president.

THE Priestley Memorial Committee of the American Chemical Society has reported that the sum of two thousand dollars has been collected and placed on interest. The committee has authorized the chairman to select an artist to copy the Stuart portrait of Priestley, which is now at Northumberland, Pa., and immediate steps will be taken to obtain a die for the Priestley medal.

PETER COOPER HEWITT, the electrical and mechanical engineer of New York City, died in Paris on August 25.

W. HORACE HOSKINS, professor of veterinary jurisprudence and dean of the New York State Veterinary College at New York University, died on August 17, aged sixty-one years.

W. E. ROLSTON, associated with Sir Norman Lockyer in the work of the Solar Physics Observatory at South Kensington until he enlisted in 1915, has died at the age of forty-five years.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE *Journal* of the Americal Medical Association states that members of the medical faculty of the University of Maryland Medical School, have placed their resignations in the hands of Dr. Albert F. Woods, president of the university. This action has been initiated by the medical men themselves in order that the faculty might be reorganized on a "half-time pay" basis. Plans for reorganization call for doubling the \$500,000 a

year now expended by the hospital and medical school for running expenses, and providing a building fund of \$1,000,000.

DR. LEE I. KNIGHT, of the department of botany, University of Minnesota, has been appointed chairman of that department.

DR. HARRY F. LEWIS, A.B. and A.M., Wesleyan University, and Ph.D., Tilden, Illinois, has been elected associate professor in chemistry at Cornell College.

DR. JOSEPH L. MAYER, chief chemist of the research and analytical laboratories of the Louis K. Liggett Co., New York, has been appointed professor of analytical and pharmaceutical chemistry in the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy where he has been associate professor of analytical chemistry for several years.

S. C. OGBURN, JR., graduate of the University of North Carolina, has been appointed instructor in chemistry at Washington and Lee University.

JAMES L. HOWE, JR., who has been for three years assistant professor of chemistry in Washington and Lee University, has accepted the professorship of chemistry in Hangchow Christian College, China.

H. P. PHILPOT, assistant professor at University College, London, has been appointed to the professorship of civil and mechanical engineering at the Finsbury Technical College; and A. J. Hale, chief assistant in the department of applied chemistry, has been appointed to the professorship in that department.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE CHERT PITS AT COXSACKIE, N. Y.

A REMARKABLE series of chert pits and two large quarries two miles south of Coxsackie, N. Y., is being examined by the archeological staff of the State Museum of New York under the leadership of State Archeologist Arthur C. Parker.

These pits are on the property of the West Shore Railroad and cover the greater portion of an elongate hill a mile in length and some one thousand feet in width. The hill is cov-

ered with the refuse of aboriginal excavations. The steep slopes are covered in places to a depth of six or more feet with the rock broken from the pits and quarries. One immense dump is more than a hundred feet long and eight feet in thickness and contains besides the waste rock the rejected blocks of flint and many broken or partially completed implements. Broken rock occurs in such quantities that the railroad purchased the property thinking it an enormous bed of broken stone suitable for road bed ballast.

Mr. Parker is making a survey of the hill in order to make a relief model of it for a museum exhibit. The artificial nature of the broken stone was discovered by Mr. Jefferson Ray, of West Coxsackie, who made a collection of 1,500 chipped chert implements from the workshop sites on the flats below the hill.

The site is an exceedingly old one and must have been worked by three or four hundred Indians at a time for a period of 500 to 1000 years, judging from the large quantities of flint found upon it. The site is a remarkable one and is a unique archeological monument that will well repay visitation by archeologists and geologists interested in securing data bearing on the stone age.

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THE USE OF AGAR IN FACILITATING THE REMOVAL OF A SWALLOWED FOREIGN OBJECT

OPPORTUNITY of experimentation and observation in the use of agar in assisting in the removal of a foreign object from the stomach came to the writer in the case of a child, four and one half years old, who had swallowed a safety pin. The pin was an ordinary nicked pin, one and one half inches long, and was closed.

According to the best medical practise the use of purgatives or cathartics in such emergency is to be avoided, as such would tend to liquefy and remove the bowel content leaving the object unsupported; and moreover any