

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

THE Rockefeller Foundation has given six million dollars to Johns Hopkins University for the endowment and buildings of the School of Hygiene and Public Health.

It is planned to establish a forest experiment station in connection with the University of California. There are twenty million acres of forest lands in the state.

THE five hundred members of the senior class at the Pennsylvania State College have voted unanimously to give the college \$100 each, making a total of \$50,000 as their class memorial endowment.

AT Yale University the degree of master of science in civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, mining engineering, or metallurgical engineering may hereafter be awarded to holders of a bachelor's degree from a college or technical school of high standing who specialize for at least two undergraduate years in that branch of engineering in which the degree is to be taken.

DR. M. C. MERRILL, professor of horticulture at the Utah Agricultural College, Logan, Utah, has resigned his position at that institution to accept the deanship of the school of applied arts at the Brigham Young University, at Provo, Utah. Dr. Merrill will assume his new work on July 1.

DR. HORATIO B. WILLIAMS, assistant professor of physiology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, has been promoted to be Dalton professor of physiology.

DR. KARL SCHLAEPFER, of the University of Zurich, Switzerland, has been appointed associate in surgery at the Johns Hopkins Medical School. Dr. Ernst Huber, also of the University of Zurich, has been appointed associate in anatomy.

PROFESSOR W. H. DAVIS, of the Iowa State Teachers' College, has been granted a Ph.D. degree by the University of Wisconsin and has assumed his work in mycology and plant pathology at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst.

MR. R. W. PALMER, of the Geological Survey of India, has been appointed senior lecturer in geology at the University of Manchester.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

DUTY ON ENGLISH BOOKS

IN a book-importer's catalogue we read:

"It may be noted that all foreign books can be imported free of duty, as well as English books, more than twenty years old at the date of importation."

Such, in fact, is the law of the land; but, in its application we have found grave modifications.

Importing a series of English scientific magazines some months ago we were informed that the shipment was in the hands of an importing or forwarding agency and would be seen through the customs and sent on upon payment for services and duty charges. In compliance with this request an amount covering charges for services and the portion of the series dutiable at the usual fifteen per cent. was forwarded the agency. The books arrived safely, apparently untouched or undisturbed in any way by customs officials. The dutiable portion constituted one fourth the entire shipment. After some time a bill came requesting payment for duty on the remaining three-fourths of the shipment, on that portion of the series printed over twenty years ago. Inquiry elicited the information that duty had been demanded and had been paid by the agency on the whole shipment. Further inquiry established the fact that duty on the whole shipment had been based on a certain precedent where an importer of books had brought in this country an integral "set" of books, some less, some more than twenty years old and that the "set" was looked upon as all dutiable, indivisible. So in the "spirit" of the law our magazines were all dutiable, whatever might be their age or the age of the majority of them. So the law might call, as it did in our case, for a duty of \$6.00, but its "spirit" called for \$18.00 more.

Conclusion for individual importers: see to it that your foreign exporters do not send you the older and newer numbers of magazines in the same box or shipment.