

and Mrs. G. C. Payne, of the International Health Board. The expedition will be under the direction of Dr. W. W. Cort. The party will leave the United States early in June and will return about the first of October. The headquarters in Porto Rico will be Utuado, where a small hospital has been furnished by the Porto Rican Department of Sanitation for laboratory and living quarters. The expedition will work in cooperation with Dr. R. B. Hill, director for Porto Rico of the International Health Board, and Dr. W. F. Lippitt, commissioner of health of Porto Rico. The work of the expedition will include a continuation of the researches on the life of hookworm eggs and larvæ in the soil which were begun in Trinidad during the summer of 1921. Field studies will also be made of the sources of human infestation under the conditions in Porto Rico.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

By the will of Seymour Coman, of Chicago, the University of Chicago is made trustee of his residuary estate estimated to be approximately \$145,000, the net income from which is to be used for scientific research with special reference to preventive medicine and the cause, prevention and cure of diseases. This bequest is to be known as the Seymour Coman Research Fund. By the will of Alexander D. Thomson, of Duluth, Minn., the sum of \$50,000 is bequeathed to the university for use in the medical department, to be expended under the direction of Dr. Wilber E. Post, a graduate and trustee of the university, and Dr. Herman L. Kretschmer.

It is reported that Wake Forest College School of Medicine is entitled to receive the principal of a trust fund, amounting to \$1,375,000, which was created in 1892 by Jabez A. Bostwick, a director of the Standard Oil Company.

DR. D. WRIGHT WILSON, of the Johns Hopkins University, will succeed Dr. John Marshall in the chair of chemistry in the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania.

G. F. REDDISH, Ph.D. (Yale '22) has been elected associate professor of bacteriology, and

Paul A. Warren, Ph.D. (Michigan '22) has been elected professor of botany in the Medical College of Virginia.

DR. CALVIN P. STONE, of the University of Minnesota, has been appointed assistant professor of psychology at Stanford University.

W. L. EIKENBERRY has resigned as associate professor in the School of Education of the University of Kansas, to take the position of professor and head of the science department in the Pennsylvania Normal School at East Stroudsburg, Pa.

DR. COLIN G. FINK has been appointed lecturer in electrochemistry and will have charge of that division of the department of chemical engineering of Columbia University, beginning on July 1. He will continue his services as secretary of the American Electrochemical Society, office facilities having been arranged at Columbia for this.

PROFESSOR MAYER, who has recently held the chair of physiology in the Strasbourg Faculty of Medicine, has been appointed successor to the late François Franek at the Collège de France.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES

THE recent address by Professor Bateson, at Toronto, has been variously interpreted. Among other things he is quoted as saying that "as to the origin of species we have no clear answer to give. Faith has given place to agnosticism . . . Although our faith in evolution remains unshaken, we have no acceptable account of the origin of species."

This statement must mean one of two things. It may be a large and generous gesture disclaiming for science any approach to omniscience, for the most that science can do is to record the "observed sequence of events." Or we may interpret it as a revelation of the speaker's ignorance of the researches of field investigators and of students of geographical distribution generally. It is evident that Bateson fails to distinguish between these and the taxonomists who, mostly in museums, have as he says "built up a vast edifice of knowledge