of potato production spent three days from August 8 to 10 in Aroostook County, Maine, inspecting potato fields and discussing problems of certification and production. A formal program was rendered.

STEPS were taken recently by the Boston Chamber of Commerce to organize a New England Research Council to study the food supply and marketing problems of the region. President K. L. Butterfield, of the Massachusetts College, was elected chairman of the groups of agricultural colleges and the federal and state departments of agriculture and other agencies interested in the formation of the council.

WE learn from the *Journal* of the American Medical Association that members of the British Medical Association have been asked to contribute five shillings each in answer to the appeal for help from Russian medical men and their families. Up to July 3 $3,500 had been received.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

THE will of the late William Sloane makes bequests to public institutions amounting to about $600,000, including Yale University, $100,000; the Presbyterian Hospital, $100,000; New York Public Library, $50,000; Metropolitan Museum of Art, $50,000; American Museum of Natural History, $50,000; Robert College of Constantinople, $10,000, and Yale Foreign Missionary Society for the institution known as "Yale in China" at Changshau, $10,000.

BY the will of the late Rollin D. Salisbury, of the University of Chicago, his estate, amounting to $125,000, is left in trust to his two sisters, on whose death one third goes to the University of Chicago for the endowment of scientific fellowships and $2,500 to Beloit College. Two former associates of Dr. Salisbury in geological research, Dr. Wallace W. Atwood, now president of Clark University, and Dr. Harlan H. Barrows, head of the University of Chicago department of geography, will share in the division of Dr. Salisbury's library.

DR. J. SCHNEIDER, of Milwaukee, has been elected "honorary senator" by the University of Würzburg in recognition of his donation of 3,000,000 marks to the university on the recent anniversary of its foundation, 340 years ago.

DR. R. FITZ, professor of medicine in the Mayo Foundation and chief of a medical section, has become associate professor of medicine at Harvard University and visiting physician at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston.

DR. WILLIAM C. ROSE, professor of biological chemistry at the medical school of the University of Texas, has been appointed associate professor of physiological chemistry at the University of Illinois.

DR. WILBUR C. SMITH, since 1916 professor of anatomy in Tulane University, has been appointed director of athletics.

DR. CHARLES B. MCGLUMPHY has been appointed assistant professor of pathology at Northwestern University Medical School. He has been working in Vienna for the past two years.

MR. R. M. WILSON, at present principal of the East Anglian Institute of Agriculture, Chelmsford, has been appointed principal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye.

DR. J. S. DUNN has been appointed to the Procter chair of pathology and pathological anatomy at Manchester in succession to Professor H. R. Dean.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

METEORITE HUNTING

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The experience of the writer in "meteor chasing" fully corroborates those of Dr. Merrill as related in SCIENCE for June 23. The general inability of the observers to furnish reliable data of the event can scarcely be exaggerated. Despite this, however, the writer has in two instances succeeded in "running to earth" the meteorite and securing a large portion if not all of it.

He also has to announce the recent obtaining of two pieces of meteoric iron (siderites) which were plowed up by a farmer in making

a tobacco bed three miles southwest of Glasgow, Barren County, Kentucky. They exhibit on fresh surfaces, even without etching, very coarse Widmanstadt structure. One of them weighs about twenty-five and the other about twenty pounds. They are both very much oxidized on the surface, and had evidently been in the earth a very long time. The smaller piece goes to the National Museum, where doubtless it will be described in full by Dr. Merrill in the near future. We propose for this fall the name "Glasgow siderite." It is the fifteenth meteorite known from Kentucky.

In hunting down the first meteorite the writer secured after he came to Kentucky—the Bath Furnace, which fell November 15, 1902, at 6:45 p.m. central time—he had good success in obtaining from a large number of observations *five* which were so accurately expressed as to angular measurements that they indicated southern Bath County, Kentucky, as the place of the fall. It was here that the first two pieces of the meteorite (an aerolite) were almost immediately recovered, and this was followed five months later by the discovery by a squirrel hunter of the main portion.

It is in the attempt to locate a meteorite which passed over Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia, early in the evening of May 30 last, 7:30 central time, 8:30 eastern time, that the writer has thus far been baffled by the singular ineptitude of the average man, and even of the man supposed to be above the average in intelligence, to grasp the space relations involved in the problem of a body coming to the earth from without. To his request through the newspapers for observations on this meteor the writer has received prompt replies from a large number of persons. They came from four states—Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia—manifest the greatest eagerness to serve the cause of science, and represent, for the most part, the more intelligent of the various communities from which they come; yet even by a follow-up correspondence it has thus far been almost impossible to obtain from any of them reliable data concerning the main thing desired—namely, the compass direction of the point of disappearance of the meteorite, either by "bursting" or sinking below the horizon, as seen from the place of observation. Another thing desired was information concerning any sounds, as of cannonading, that might have been heard in connection with the "bursting," and if such were heard, what was the interval between the two phenomena.

It is evident from the replies received, that while people about us *formally* subscribe to the doctrine of a spherical earth, surrounded by infinite space, *practically* their conception of the universe when it comes to orienting themselves in it with reference to things terrestrial and things celestial is as primitive as that delineated on the monuments of Egypt, set forth in the writings of the ancient Chaldeans and Hebrews, or promulgated from the pulpit of Voliva of Zion City.

Knowing that few people possess compasses, and that still fewer know how to use them in measuring degrees of azimuth, the writer sent out maps, with the direction to each observer that he return it after he had oriented it with reference to the points of the compass and drawn a line on it from the place of observation toward the point of bursting or disappearance of the meteor. It has been surprising (though we should have been prepared for it by previous experience) to find how few people can locate points correctly on a map, or indeed use a map for any of the purposes for which it has been made. One of the parties, and he a college professor, evidently held the map above his head in an effort to make it represent the sky and tried to show by a curved line on this flat surface, and hence in a different plane, what appeared to him to be the descending path of the meteor. As other evidences of the survival of naïve primitive conceptions as to the relation existing between the "heavens and the earth," all the Indiana observers were sure the meteorite fell in their state, with commendable state pride making the "circle of the heavens" meet that of the earth on their side of the Ohio River. The pot of gold is to be found at the end of the rainbow just over the neighboring hill. Hence also the Ohio observer, who saw it from a moving automobile, was sure that he could conduct the writer to the exact spot where the

meteorite fell, which he described as in a ravine four and one half miles southeast of Oxford, Ohio. Hence, also, the size of it was variously estimated as "six inches in diameter," "as large as a dinner plate," "as large as a lard can," "as large as a barrel"; and the path of it on the face of the firmament was described as "descending toward the earth" (really it was passing toward the horizon) "with a moderately descending course," "at an angle of 45 degrees," "at an angle of 65 degrees"—all blissfully unconscious that these estimates mean nothing to any one but the one making it. A doctor described the bright trail left by the meteor as "20 feet long." Two of the observers at different points, neither of them closer to it than 50 miles, despite the fact that sound waves travel with a very low velocity as compared to those of light, were certain that they heard a "swishing" or "hissing" noise accompanying the meteor as it sped across the sky. A number attempted to give the direction of the *path* of the meteor with reference to the points of the compass, not realizing that this was impossible in all cases where it did not pass through the zenith of the observer, because only one of the components of its course—that athwart the line of his vision—could be determined by him.

Let us hope that when our present boy scouts come to maturity, having been trained in a proper knowledge of their relation to their physical environment, which has been so sadly neglected in our schools—is it because the teaching of the boy has been so exclusively delegated to women?—those who then follow "meteor chasing" as a scientific recreation may find their efforts to elicit information concerning things celestial, when they come into relation to things terrestrial, crowned with better success than were those of their predecessors.

Meanwhile the meteorite of May 30, 1922, lies hidden somewhere in the most mountainous portion of West Virginia, probably, according to the advices received from Dr. I. C. White, state geologist of that state, within the area covered by the counties of Fayette, Greenbrier, Raleigh and Summers. What an exasperating way meteorites seem to have of so frequently selecting the wildest and most rugged portions of our earth in which to bury themselves![1]

ARTHUR M. MILLER
THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

THE FOURTH RECORD OF THE OCCURRENCE IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN OF THE WHALE SHARK, RHINEODON TYPUS

ON the early morning of May 19, 1922, while the Munson liner, *American Legion*, Charles H. Zearfoss master, was crossing over the banks which lie northeast of the Abrolhos Light, off the coast of Brazil, in Lat. 17° 57′ S. and Long. 38° 41′ W., a large shark was struck by the stem of the vessel and held doubled around the bow for some hours. It was photographed and an attempt was made to get it aboard, but the weight was too great.

It was struck just behind the gills and, with about eight feet of the head end on one side of the bow and some twenty-two feet of the body and tail on the other, it was so perfectly balanced that the vessel had to be stopped and backed before it could be got rid of.

Photographs sent me by Mr. C. F. Krauss, a passenger on the steamer, and by Captain Zearfoss, show only a part of the body, but they show plainly the spots arranged in vertical rows and separated by vertical bars, the distinctive markings of the whale shark. These photographs leave not the faintest shadow of doubt that the shark was *Rhineodon*.

This then definitely constitutes a fourth record for the Atlantic Ocean of the occurrence of the largest of all the sharks, and of the rarest of all the large sharks. The other

[1] Since writing the above, letters from two persons in West Virginia—W. T. Hill, Eskdale, Kanawha County, and M. W. Venable, who saw the meteor from near the mouth of Glade Creek, Raleigh County—indicate that the meteorite is probably to be looked for in Greenbrier County, that state. The former heard a "rumbling sound" in a due east direction about one minute after the meteor disappeared, and the latter a "tremendous roar similar to a salvo of artillery" simultaneous with the bursting of the meteorite with a "brilliance almost blinding" in a direction a little east of north.