

Bertuch, \$750,000 to public purposes. Among these bequests are \$100,000 to Columbia University for poor students and \$50,000 to Cooper Union.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that the Medical School of the University of Rochester is making progress. A research laboratory will be completed in about three months. An affiliation is being brought about between the city authorities and the university for the building of a municipal hospital on or near the university campus, and, in accordance with the arrangements, the university medical school will furnish the professional training and nursing staffs, and the medical teaching will be carried on in the hospital. Walter R. Bloor, Ph.D., of the University of California Medical School, has accepted the chair of biochemistry, and will begin his work this fall. Dr. George W. Corner, now at Johns Hopkins University, is to be the professor of anatomy. He will assume his duties at Rochester early in 1924. Dr. Nathaniel W. Faxon, now of the Massachusetts General Hospital, will assume the position of director of the University Hospital on October 15. The school will be ready to receive students in the fall of 1924 or 1925.

DR. RICHARD M. SMITH, instructor in pediatrics, Medical School of Harvard University, has been appointed assistant professor of child hygiene in the new school of public health.

DR. CHARLES P. ALEXANDER, of the Illinois Natural History Survey, has been elected assistant professor of entomology at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. W. S. Regan last autumn.

DR. ALEX. McTAGGART, formerly agriculturist of the Department of Agriculture Museum at Wellington, New Zealand, has been appointed assistant professor of agronomy at Macdonald College, Canada. He will be in charge of plant breeding work, with special reference to grasses and clovers.

DR. J. W. McLEOD, lecturer in bacteriology at the University of Leeds, has been appointed the first occupant of the Sir Edward Brotherton chair of bacteriology in that university.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### THE ZODIACAL LIGHT

THE most brilliant display of the zodiacal light that I have observed occurred on the night of April 8, 1922. My point of observation was Poulan, Worth County, Georgia (latitude 31-30 north; longitude 83-45 west). The light covered more of the heavens than shown as a zone of zodiacal light in any of the several hundred charts made of it by an observer with Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan in 1853-1856, and printed in a huge tomed report by the United States government as a part of the reports of that historic occurrence. One great volume of the Perry reports is given over entirely to the zodiacal light, forming the most massive single piece of literature upon the subject. I have observed the zodiacal light from the Straits of Magellan to 46 north latitude without having seen such a display as the one here alluded to. It dulled the near full moon. There was not a cloud in the sky. In the brilliant moonlight the zodiacal light made the spots in the heavens unilluminated by it looks like coal sacks, so great was the contrast. I have seen the aurora borealis above the Arctic circle and the aurora australis below the Antarctic line, and seldom were these exhibitions more brilliant and effective than the display that was neither on the night of April 8 last. It must be true that observers in southern latitudes are often confused by the zodiacal light and take it for an auroral burst. The zodiacal light is usually most noticeable in the western sky. This one covered more than half the heavens irregularly. It continued from 9 P.M. until 3 A.M. with varying brilliancy. Judge Roberts P. Hudson, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, was my companion observer on the night of April 8.

CHASE S. OSBORN

SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN

### THE MEALY-BUG CALLED PSEUDOCOCCUS BROMELIÆ, AND OTHER COCCIDS

IN my recent review of Wheeler on *Tachigalia* insects, I gave a footnote questioning the validity of the name *Pseudococcus bromeliæ* (Bouché), as applied to the species of mealy-bug found on *Tachigalia*. This has brought