UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

PRINCETON University will, subject to a life interest, receive over $500,000 by the will of Charles F. Williams.

MRS. GEORGE CHASE CHRISTIAN, of Minneapolis, has given $250,000 to establish an institute at the University of Minnesota for the investigation and treatment of cancer.

GOVERNOR BAXTER has signed a bill appropriating $895,000 to the University of Maine. The sum of $300,000 is appropriated for each of the fiscal years ending 1924 and 1925. For repairs and equipment $75,000 is provided for the first of the two years and $50,000 for the second. For an arts and science building $170,000 is appropriated, the expenditure to cover the two years.

DR. SAMUEL WESLEY STRATTON, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will be formally inaugurated on June 11.

DR. OSKAR KLOTZ, recently engaged in reorganizing the pathological department of the University of Buenos Aires, under the direction of the Rockefeller Foundation, has been appointed to the chair of pathology of the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine, left vacant by the death of Dr. John J. MacKenzie.

MR. W. J. PERRY has been appointed to a university readership in cultural anthropology and Dr. Bronislaw Malinowski to a readership in social anthropology in University College, London.

PROFESSOR A. V. HILL, of Manchester, has been appointed to the Jodrell chair of physiology in University College, London.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

EINSTEIN DISPLACEMENT ON THE PLATES TAKEN BY THE CANADIAN PARTY AT THE AUSTRALIAN ECLIPSE

AT the eclipse of the sun of September last two plates were taken to test for the Einstein effect, by the Canadian party at Wallal, western Australia. The focal length of the camera was eleven feet and the aperture of the lens was six inches. Dr. R. K. Young, of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Victoria, B. C., who was a member of the party, has completed the measurement and computation of the plates, and the final results are given below. Over thirty stars were recognized on the plates and twenty-three were submitted to measurement, but eight of these were discarded in the course of the work, thus leaving fifteen. The measured displacement outward from the sun, as well as the expected amount according to Einstein's theory, are given in seconds of arc:

Measured +0.30, +0.44, +0.28, +0.25, +0.66, +0.22, —0.31, +0.12, —0.11, +0.23, +0.08, +0.06, +0.53, +0.77, —0.05.

Expected +0.48, +0.41, +0.40, +0.30, +0.28, +0.27, +0.24, +0.24, +0.24, +0.22, +0.22, +0.21, +0.21, +0.21, +0.18.

It will be seen that the displacement is undoubted and its amount is approximately that predicted by Einstein, but the results can hardly be considered decisive.

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FUNDAMENTAL CLASSIFICATION OF GALLS

IN the interest of gall science, attention is called to the following errors and deficiencies appearing in a recent number of SCIENCE which are related to the definition of two basic and highly significant terms.

Cook in a paper entitled "The Origin and Structure of Plant Galls"[1] states: "Küster has classified galls on the basis of presence or absence of cell differentiation into two great groups: (1) kataplasmas or those in which the structure is undifferentiated parenchyma, and (2) prosoplasmas in which there is a differentiation into other tissues."

This interpretation of Küster's valuable classification is highly misleading and incomplete. In Küster's latest general work dealing with galls[2] on page 283 one may find the following: Kataplasma structures are those which fall below the corresponding normal part in their differentiation. They show no constant size, form or time of development. They may occur as the deformation of an entire organ or as a local growth." In all of his earlier

[1] SCIENCE, 57, 6-13, 1923.
[2] *Pathologische Pflanzenanatomie*, Jena, 1916.

writings Küster presents the same idea that kataplasmas may range from structures suffering slightly inhibited differentiation to those homogeneous parenchyma types in which differentiation is wholly inhibited. Nowhere does Küster restrict the term to the latter "undifferentiated parenchyma" type.

In the same paragraph dealing with Küster's terms Cook accepts the statement of the writer that galls of Nematoda, Lepidoptera and certain other animal groups are kataplasmas. The vast majority of these galls show differentiated cells, especially xylem and phloem elements and are never wholly composed of "undifferentiated parenchyma."

Regarding prosoplasmas Cook says "they are structures in which there is a differentiation into other tissues." No explanation of what these "other" tissues are like is appended, so the statement is meaningless. Küster has defined prosoplasmas as gall structures which are characterized by definite size, form and time of development and possessing tissue characters (form and orientation characters chiefly) which are new, *i. e.*, they are not duplicated in the host plant. They range from poorly differentiated types to ones highly differentiated.

In this connection attention should also be called to Cook's error in classifying crown gall as a "low type of prosoplasma" because they possess "rather weak fibrous tissue." Küster on page 152 of the above mentioned work definitely, and to the mind of the writer correctly, includes all bacterial galls under "kataplasmas."

From the above definitions of Küster's terms basic to the fundamental classification of galls it is apparent that the assertion of Cook that "Küster has classified galls on the basis of *presence or absence of cell differentiation* into two great groups" is entirely wrong.

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ATHLETICS AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE propagandist for any particular reform is always ready and willing to enlist in his holy cause any agency capable of lending the slightest assistance, however remote the real aims of such agency may be and regardless of the possibility that the agency in question may have its hands more than full with its own proper business. This reflection represents the reaction of one reader to Dr. W. E. Allen's article in a recent number of SCIENCE. No doubt athletics is in a bad way in some seats of learning—although I hasten to disclaim any reference here to the Scripps Institution—and Dr. Allen's continual italicization of the word *commercialized* gives the whole matter an ugly look, while providing a convenient loophole for the escape of the administrator or professor who regards athletic activities at his particular college as *non*-commercialized, but before the association embarks upon the crusade, conjointly, of course, with all other societies interested in the advancement of knowledge, it would be well to make sure of the facts and relations involved.

Is it in reality true that earnest undergraduates, strongly or even feebly determined upon becoming, say, consulting chemists to the soap industry or uncompromising foes of the corn ear-worm, are turned aside from these worthy aims and their slender means confiscated by burly fullbacks and members of the "sporting fraternity," detailed for such canvassing? Is this sort of thing characteristic of many institutions of high standing? We know from recently published statistics that the higher grades of students go largely into university teaching with its implied devotion to research, and I, for one, scout the notion that such undergraduates are in any danger whatever of being led permanently astray by athletes or athletics, *commercialized* or pure. If I may be permitted to draw upon my own experience and observations at Harvard, I would affirm that such an opinion is pure nonsense, since each student is naturally regarded by his fellows as a free agent in such matters. Let those who are unduly impressed with this rare if not wholly imaginary seduction of infant scientists remember that there is something to be said on the other side; *organized* athletics provides in its public spectacles one of the rare spots of high color in a somewhat drab civilization, it furnishes funds which give the whole student body apparatus and opportunity for interesting and therefore wholesome