

trustees of the Gusta Morris Rothschild estate and the fourth by Albert Kuppenheimer.

PROFESSOR BROUWER, of Delft, Holland, has sent a set of invertebrate fossils of Permian age to the geological museum of the University of Michigan. Professor Brouwer, who was the exchange professor with Professor W. H. Hobbs of the department of geology last year, made the collection in the Dutch East Indies.

THE legacy of one million francs left by the late Prince Albert of Monaco to the French Academy of Medicine, is to be used to found a prize for doctors for certain kinds of medical service or discoveries. It is intended that the value of the prize shall be 120,000 francs and that it shall be awarded once every two years. The council of the academy has not yet decided whether the prize is to be international.

A SOCIETY of Bologna has founded an endowment of 6,000 francs yearly for an Italian student of physics and chemistry who wishes to do research work in the Curie Laboratory, Paris. The fellowship is endowed for ten years.

A PARTY from the public health service in Mexico has been visiting the Institute for Tropical Medicine at Hamburg, to aid in establishing closer relations between the institute and the state of Mexico.

THE British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research announces that a license has been issued by the Board of Trade to the Research Association of British Flour Millers under the conditions laid down in the Government scheme for the encouragement of industrial research.

ACCORDING to figures of the United States Forest Service compiled for the fiscal year ended June 30, revenues from sales of timber and livestock grazing permits and use of forest lands for summer homes and hotels brought in \$5,335,818. This amount is about \$1,000,000 larger than the average annual receipts of the preceding five years. Of the receipts, \$1,371,551 will be paid over to states containing national forests for use as school and road funds of the counties in which the national forests are located. An additional \$528,569 will be used in building roads and trails in the forests. Twenty-seven states and Alaska shared in the distribution, California receiving \$445,675.

THE London School of Tropical Medicine has arranged to send an expedition to Samoa to study the prevention of elephantiasis and filariasis, diseases which affect 85 per cent. of the inhabitants of the Samoan group. The expedition will have its headquarters at Apia and will be away for two years; it will work in cooperation with the New Zealand government, which is responsible for the administration of Samoa. The expedition, which will leave England on November 15, will be under the leadership of Dr.

Patrick Buxton, who did valuable work on entomology in Mesopotamia during the war, and has recently been entomologist to the Palestine Government at Jerusalem.

## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

MR. EDWARD and MISS ADA DOERNBECHER, of Portland, Oregon, have recently donated \$200,000 to the University of Oregon Medical School to be used in the construction of the Doernbecher Memorial Children's Hospital on the campus of the medical school.

CHARLES STILLMAN, of New York City, has given to Yale University the sum of \$100,000 to establish the James Raymond Goodrich Scholarship Fund to provide each year ten scholarships of \$500 each, to be awarded to students of exceptional character and ability.

FORMAL dedication of the new pathological laboratory building of the Johns Hopkins Medical School was held on November 1. Addresses were made by Dr. Frank J. Goodnow, president of the university; Dr. William G. MacCallum, Baxley professor of pathology, and Dr. William H. Welch, director of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

FRANK DICKSON, for the past three years instructor in plant pathology in Cornell University, has been appointed assistant professor in plant pathology in the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B. C.

DR. M. A. CHRYSLER has resigned his position as head of the department of biology of the University of Maine to accept a position in the department of botany of Rutgers College.

DR. W. A. WHITESELL, of the Johns Hopkins University, has accepted a position as associate professor of chemistry at the University of South Carolina.

DR. FRANKLIN C. MCLEAN, for several years director of the Peking (China) Union Medical College, has been appointed professor of medicine at the University of Chicago Medical School.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### THE FIRE IN CALIFORNIA

It appears that the accounts of the great conflagration of September seventeenth in Berkeley, which appeared in the public press in various parts of the world, were inaccurate in various degrees, and it seems advisable that a correct statement of the salient facts be published.

A grass, brush and forest fire in the hills northeasterly from Berkeley, fanned by an extremely strong northeast wind, got beyond control and between the hours of 2:45 p. m., and 5:15 p. m., spread over

an area of about sixty "blocks" immediately adjoining the University campus on the north. The spread of the fire was very rapid; in many cases ten minutes sufficed to carry the flames from one street to the next parallel street. In most cases the occupants of the residences did not have time to remove their possessions to appreciable extent. In the burned area lived about 60 University professors, associate professors and assistant professors, and about 50 instructors, assistants and associates; about 30 secretaries, library assistants, clerks and stenographers in the employ of the University; and 1,042 University students. The number of fraternity and sorority houses consumed was about 12.

Not only did members of the University community suffer serious loss and inconvenience as to residences and furnishings, but the libraries of those who were burned out, and other collections intimately related to their university duties, were consumed. In a few cases professors' manuscripts embodying the results of several years of research were lost. The students who were burned out did not devote their efforts in general to saving their own equipment of clothing and books, but unselfishly joined with the informal organizations of students engaged in getting the occupants of houses into safety zones, in removing limited quantities of residence contents to the University campus and elsewhere, and to efforts looking toward the staying of the flames.

Relief measures were promptly organized, and assistance has been rendered, though on a relatively small scale, to those in most serious need. Many organizations in Berkeley and in the San Francisco Bay region, operating chiefly through the Berkeley Chapter of the American Red Cross, have gone far to meet these needs. The unofficial relief centers and countless individuals have given assistance more directly upon a commendable scale. The spirit of those who suffered has been admirable, so far as I am aware in absolutely every case. All concerned have been averse to the making of a public appeal for help. Both the Red Cross and the University Committee engaged in meeting the situation have found their chief difficulty, not in the securing of relief funds, but in obtaining from those who suffered loss the information necessary to the carrying out of adequate and wise relief policies.

No University buildings were consumed or seriously damaged, and the University's minor losses are summed up in a few thousands of dollars. More than half of the students affected lost their lecture notebooks, and in other ways their studies were interfered with for a few days. Many of the professors who were burned out on Monday afternoon, September seventeenth, were in their lecture rooms early Tuesday morning; and the same spirit of determina-

tion to carry on has not diminished in the intervening three weeks.

Messages of sympathy for those members of the University community who suffered have been numerous, and have come from great distances—from the University of Louvain on the one hand and from the University of Peking on the other. In behalf of the University of California I desire to thank the senders of the messages and all those whom the messages represented. As an instance of sympathy and assistance extended, I desire to speak especially of the benefit concert given in the Greek Theater of the University by the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra under the leadership of Mr. Alfred Hertz. The services of the orchestra and of all who helped on that occasion were provided gratis by those who rendered them.

W. W. CAMPBELL

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

### APPLES, WORMS, PHILOSOPHERS AND GOATS

CHARLES DARWIN once showed the intimate connection existing in nature between cats, mice, bumble bees and clover. The classical presentation of this great naturalist must be at once my inspiration and excuse for offering some further biological reflections on the relationships of apples, worms, philosophers and goats. It will be necessary, in this ecological excursion, to go somewhat farther back than Darwin did, and begin at the beginning, in the same manner as the book of Genesis. We may have to invoke some form of metempsychosis or paronomasia, but in these days of advanced psychical research this should offer no difficulty.

It is necessary, in the first place, to show that the apple into which Adam sank his teeth was wormy, and, in the second place, that he nipped the worm's tail in this his maiden effort at consuming a specimen of *Pyrus malus*. It may be objected that, in the Garden of Eden, in which everything was perfect, there were no worms in the apples. I think that this objection may be easily overthrown, and I take as an authority no less a person than Mr. William Jennings Bryan. It is definitely known, according to Mr. Bryan, that the Lord created all plants and all other animals before he created man. Apple worms must, therefore, have been created before man. Since all transmutation of species by evolution must be excluded, these worms must have had to eat something to keep them alive, and they must have eaten apples and nothing else. In the perfect balance of things that must have obtained in the Garden of Eden, there was an apple for every worm, and, we may say also, a worm for every apple. By the use of pure Aristotelian logic, we have arrived at the conclusion that the apple which Adam ate was wormy. If any one