discuss soil problems arising in their work, and they will be provided with facilities for experimental investigations.

PRESIDENT HENRY F. OSBORN, of the American Museum of Natural History has received the following telegram from the well-known geologist of southern California, Robert T. Hill: "Human remains found here completely fossilized. Occur twenty-five feet deep in horizontal stratified material of old recent or latest Pleistocene. No possibility of intrusion or confusion with outwash or Santa Barbara occurrence. Considered most unquestionable ancient occurrence yet reported. Material well cared for by Bryan and Stock." The scientific experts mentioned are William Alanson Bryan, director of the Los Angeles Museum, and Chester Stock, of the University of California.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

THE University of Colorado has received a grant of $180,000 from the General Education Board and a gift of $120,000 from Mrs. Verner Z. Reed, of Denver, Colorado, to provide equipment for the new medical school and hospital plant now being erected in Denver. This consists of a large central building to house the medical school and general hospital, a psychopathic hospital, a nurses home and training school, and a power and heating plant. In addition to the gifts mentioned above, the funds for the new institution have been contributed as follows: the General Education Board has given $700,000; the Carnegie Corporation, $100,000; the State of Colorado, $950,000, and private individuals, $160,000. The school will be opened in September.

AN anonymous legacy of $200,000 for the establishment of an endowment fund for research work in the department of pediatrics has been received by Cornell University Medical School.

BY the will of the late Dr. Emmett Holt, Columbia University receives the sum of $25,000 for the establishment of a fellowship for the study of diseases of children. The Babies' Hospital of New York City also receives $25,000 to be used for the support of research work in the wards and laboratories of said hospital.

IN honor of Dr. Charles William Eliot a loan fund of $2,000 has been established at the Harvard Medical School by an anonymous friend of the university. It will be used to assist needy students in the medical school, under provisions to be determined by the dean, and will be known as the Charles William Eliot Loan Fund. The original donor specified that the fund might be increased from time to time with the thought that other individuals interested both in the medical school and in such a tribute to Dr. Eliot might wish to add to the established fund.

DR. FREDERICK L. RANSOME, who has been in charge of the section of metalliferous deposits with the United States Geological Survey since 1912, and who has during the present college year held the position of professor of economic geology in the University of Arizona at Tucson while on leave of absence from the survey, has accepted permanently the chair of economic geology at the University of Arizona, and will resign from the survey.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

PORTRAITS OF NATURALISTS AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY

BEGINNING in the year of the great earthquake in California, 1906, there has gradually come into existence, at Stanford University, a collection of portraits of eminent naturalists which deserves more than local recognition.

These are not, as a rule, photographs, for the strong light of this climate has made me doubt the wisdom of collecting portraits done in a medium the permanence of which, in certain instances at least, is questionable. A serious attempt has been made, therefore, to collect engravings and prints of other sorts with a view to greater permanence.

These portraits are framed and hung on the walls of the library of the department of botany. As one enters this room from the hall one faces the impressive figure of Charles Darwin, two thirds life size, an India proof of the etching by Flameng from the painted portrait of Collier in the National Portrait Gallery in London, the portrait made familiar by photogravures which were reasonably numerous twenty-five or more years ago, but in the finer form of etching increasingly rare.

To the right, one sees an artist proof, by the same painter and etcher, of Huxley, also increasingly rare. The beautiful portrait of Charles Darwin, which bears his signature (whether in facsimile or original, I have not been able to determine) is flanked by portraits of his father and grandfather on one side and his son, Sir Francis Darwin, on the other—four generations of this famous family being revealed to the visitor and student. Comparison of these four faces leads to interesting impressions—comparison of the four figures, assuming the equal fidelity of the four portraits—leads to the conclusion that overeating is less common than formerly! On the same wall is a lithograph portrait of Henslow—for "Darwin walked with Henslow."

A steel engraving of Sir Joseph Hooker, seated in a Himalayan landscape and waited upon by natives bringing collections of rhododendrons and other

plants associated with his name, is another of the portraits in this collection. Lithographs of Sir Joseph and his father Sir William Hooker are also here.

A mezzotint engraving of Humboldt, seated in his ornamental shirtsleeves under a banana palm, with what might be mistaken to be an iceberg in the offing, is another composition which leads one to question the value of the picture as portraiture, though there can be no question of its value as a print. A beautiful engraved portrait of Linnaeus, dated 1779, is one of the treasures of the collection.

It is not necessary to list these pictures, but one word may be said as to how they have been accumulated. In the catalogues of second-hand book dealers one finds lists of portraits, some of which are undesirable because of inferior workmanship or for other reasons. In these lists one occasionally finds fine things, and some of our best pictures have been secured from second-hand book dealers. On the other hand, the interest of friends or of institutions has resulted in our getting other portraits not obtainable by purchase. Thus, we have an artist proof wood-engraving of Asa Gray, by Kruel, the gift of the Gray Herbarium. We have a very fine photograph of W. T. Sedgwick and an engraved portrait of Harvey which Sedgwick himself bought at Oxford, both of which were given to us by his widow.

Attention is called to this collection now because of our conviction that the presentation of face and features of the men who make science gives to it a human quality which those who are beginning to devote themselves to it ought not to miss; and in the second place, to invite additional contributions to a collection the value of which is already established. I should be very glad to receive correspondence relative to portraits of other eminent naturalists and to welcome gifts should any follow.

GEORGE J. PEIRCE
STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN LIBRARIES

THE American Library Association, through one of its committees, is endeavoring to supply to European libraries, unable under present conditions to purchase in America, some of the American books and periodicals which are so sorely needed.

Files of SCIENCE, covering the years since 1914, are in great demand and our committee can use to the very best advantage at least twenty sets. If any of your subscribers who have files that they are willing to contribute for this purpose will send them to me, they will be doing a great service, not only to their European colleagues, but to the interests of science in general.

Files of almost any other scientific journal are also welcome.

The committee will be glad to pay express charges on anything that is sent to them.

Parcels should be addressed, *Princeton University Library (Books for Europe) Princeton, N. J.*

JAMES THAYER GEROULD,
For the Committee

GRANTS FROM THE RUMFORD COMMITTEE

As chairman of the Rumford Committee of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences I wish to direct attention to the decision of the committee by which the term "light" is considered to include the spectral region of the x-rays.

Under this interpretation the field in which grants may be made from the funds at the disposal of the committee is extended to include researches in x-rays.

THEODORE LYMAN
JEFFERSON PHYSICAL LABORATORY,
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Botany: Principles and Problems. By EDMUND W. SINNOTT. Pp. xix + 385. Figs. 240. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York, 1923.

TEXT-BOOKS in science fall naturally into two classes as to authorship—those whose authors are primarily interested in the science, and those whose authors are also interested in the teaching of the subject and in its use as an educational discipline. Sinnott's new text falls into the latter class. Authoritative and clearly presented from the standpoint of modern botany, it is very obviously a product of successful classroom and laboratory experience with college classes.

The book "endeavors to set forth somewhat briefly and concisely the more important facts concerning the morphology, physiology and classification of plants, and to provide a body of problem material which may be of assistance in stimulating thought and in promoting class discussion." Teachers, especially young teachers and those of more experience but burdened with a heavy schedule of classes, will welcome the "Questions for thought and discussion" and the "Reference problems" given at the end of each chapter. Students will also benefit thereby. Some one has well said that education in any given subject does not consist so much in information as in learning how to think in that subject. The organization of Professor Sinnott's text is well calculated to accomplish both results.

Of seventeen chapters, the first two are introductory in nature, the third deals with the soil and its importance to plants, and the next three with the root