

Norway, we could save 180,000 lives every year, and with such saving the population of France would have remained around 40,000,000. However, since 1806—that is, since exact birth and death statistics have been kept—the birth rate has steadily declined. Recently, Calmette sent to the Academy of Medicine curves of the births and deaths during this period. These show that, during the first half of the last century, the number of births per thousand population was higher than the number of deaths. But, about 1855, the numbers begin to be more nearly equal. From 1890 on, the two curves begin to cross, and between 1914 and 1919 the births took a deplorable drop. Calmette estimates that the war not only cost France 1,500,000 lives, but prevented 1,560,000 births. A sudden upward trend of the birth curve in 1920 awakened hope, in which year the birth rate rose to 21.3 per thousand population in place of 9.5, which it was in 1916. But in 1921 it dropped back to 20.7 and in 1922 to 19.4. In the latter year, there was a deficit of 74,000 births as compared with 1920."

We learn from the London *Times* that recent acquisitions of the Natural History Museum at South Kensington include a skeleton of the dolphin *Pseudorca crassidens* from the Cambridgeshire Fens, presented by Dr. J. R. Garrood, of Huntingdon. The gift is of considerable scientific importance, as the type specimen of the species which belonged to the museum of the Stanford Institute was lost many years ago. Two meteoric stones, one weighing 2,869 grams and the other 1,355 grams, which fell at Merna, near Allahabad, were received from the director of the Geological Survey of India. A large collection of spiders made by the late Mr. H. R. Hogg was presented by his widow. This gift is of importance, as it includes the types of many Australian species described by Mr. Hogg. Professor A. Dendy, F.R.S., of King's College, London, presented the whole of his spirit collection of land planarians, comprising over 70 named species, a large proportion of which are types. This addition to the collection of a little-known group of worms is of much scientific interest. The purchases approved by the trustees included two specimens from Abyssinia of the Aard Vark in the flesh. These specimens are being dissected, and it is hoped that it may be possible from this material to throw some light on the problem of its proper place in the classification of the mammalia.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

A BEQUEST of approximately \$350,000 comes to the University of Wisconsin in a trust fund by the will of the late Thomas E. Brittingham.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY receives \$100,000 for the endowment of eight equal scholarships, four for Mich-

igan and four for Maryland students, under the will of John G. Armstrong, of Detroit, Mich. The will directs that in choosing the holders of the scholarships "the general mental, moral and physical characteristics be taken into consideration rather than any specialized excellence in any one field."

DR. KENYON L. BUTTERFIELD has resigned the presidency of the Massachusetts Agricultural College to become president of the Michigan Agricultural College at Lansing, as successor to Dr. David Friday.

THE title of Mitchill professor of chemistry in Columbia University, previously held by Dr. Charles F. Chandler, who retired in 1910, has been conferred upon Dr. Henry C. Sherman, who has taught in the department of chemistry at Columbia continuously (except for absence on war service) since 1899 and has been executive officer of the department since 1920.

PROFESSOR ALBERT SAUVEUR, of the Harvard Engineering School, who is now on leave of absence abroad to receive the Bessemer Gold Medal, is named Gordon McKay professor of metallurgy and metallography. This professorship has been unfilled since 1917, Professor Edward D. Peters last holding it.

DR. LEO LOEB, director of the research laboratory at the Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, has been appointed Edward Mallinckrodt professor of pathology at the university.

AFTER sixteen years of service as head of the department of physics in Oberlin College, Professor S. R. Williams retires at the end of the present academic year to accept a position in Amherst College made vacant by the death of Professor A. L. Kimball.

VICTOR C. MYERS, Ph.D. (Yale), has resigned as professor and director of the department of biochemistry at the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital after thirteen years of service, and has accepted the appointment of professor of biochemistry at the State University of Iowa and pathological chemist to the University Hospital.

A new department of physiology and pharmacology has been organized at the University of Louisville with the following staff: Dr. Henry G. Barbour, professor of physiology and pharmacology; Dr. William F. Hamilton, assistant professor of physiology; Dr. Reinhard Beutner, assistant professor of pharmacology; Dr. Arville O. DeWeese, assistant professor of physiology and pharmacology, and Dr. Hulbert V. Noland, instructor in clinical pharmacology.

DR. RUDOLF KRAUS, who recently returned to Vienna after several years in charge of the State Serum Institute in Argentina and later in Brazil, has been appointed to the chair of pathology at the University of Vienna.