

To develop greater facilities for research and investigations, the Graham Brothers Truck Co., Evansville, Ind., manufacturer of motor trucks, has completed plans for a new metallurgical laboratory, to be two-story, brick and concrete, 50 x 60 feet, costing about \$30,000, with equipment.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

THE Rockefeller Foundation has given 10,000,000 dinars (about \$200,000) to Jugo Slavia for the construction of a school of hygiene at Zagreb, the administrative capital of Croatia; \$40,000 for the improvement of sanitary institutions in Belgrade, and \$15,000 for the aid of needy students abroad who pledge their services after graduation to the public health service in Jugo Slavia.

UNDER the terms of the will of the late George St. John Sheffield, of Providence, son of the founder of the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale University, the university will receive the greater portion of the testator's estate after the death of his widow.

UNDER the terms of the will of the late R. J. Edwards, of Boston, a trust is established for the benefit of his two sisters, and on their deaths \$100,000 will go to the Harvard Medical School to create the "Jacob Edwards Fund" in memory of the testator's father. The income of the fund will be used for research.

FIRE, believed to have been caused by an overheated furnace, completely destroyed the mines building at the University of Washington on December 17, with a loss of more than \$125,000.

DR. JAMES C. FLIPPIN, professor of clinical medicine at the University of Virginia Medical School, has been appointed acting dean of the school, following the death of Dean Hough.

DR. A. C. BACHMEYER, superintendent of the Municipal Hospital, Cincinnati, has been appointed dean of the Medical College of the University of Cincinnati.

JOSHUA A. COPE, assistant state forester of Maryland, has been appointed assistant extension professor of forestry at Cornell University, and John N. Spaeth, formerly at the Harvard University Forest, was recently named assistant professor in the College of Agriculture.

CHARLES E. PACKARD has been appointed instructor in zoology at Allegheny College.

DR. RENÉ LERICHE, agrégé professor of surgery at

the Lyons Faculty of Medicine, has been called to the chair of surgery at the University of Strasbourg, which has been vacant for some time.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS OF THE ECLIPSE OF JANUARY, 1925

MAY I call the attention of physicists whose laboratories are situated outside of the track of totality of the eclipse of January 24, 1925, to the fact that for certain spectroscopic observations they are better placed than if they were situated within the track. For points where from 92 per cent. to 99 per cent. of the sun's diameter is covered by the moon, it has been shown that the spectrum of the lower chromosphere can be studied at length with the slit spectroscope and exposures may be made many times longer than in the two or three seconds that are possible at the beginning and the end of totality. By keeping the tip of a cusp on the slit interesting results may be expected. A large objective is not necessary for forming the solar image, but of course the low altitude of the sun will be unfavorable at this eclipse. Those interested should consult the articles by Professor H. F. Newall, of Cambridge, and Professor A. Fowler, of London, giving the results of their observations of the partial eclipse of April, 1912 (see the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, Vol. 72, pages 536-541). Those not having access to this volume will find a quotation from these articles in *Popular Astronomy*, vol. 26, no. 255, May, 1918. This will be the last total solar eclipse visible in the United States for twenty years.

EDWIN B. FROST

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HOW THE WORKS OF PROFESSOR WILLARD GIBBS WERE PUBLISHED

IN SCIENCE of September 26, 1924, Supplement, p. x, Professor F. G. Donnan, of London, is reported to have quoted Henry Adams as saying that after Benjamin Franklin, Gibbs was the greatest man of science that America has produced, and that "Gibbs ranks with men like Newton, Lagrange and Hamilton." Similar statements were made by speakers at the dedication of the new Chemical Laboratory of Yale University and elsewhere. It is not my purpose to oppose such opinions, nor to question his eminent ability.

Specialists in other very different sciences might, and probably do, have other estimates. Many would, perhaps, name Professor James D. Dana as the greatest scientist, for he was eminent in three very diverse sciences: Geology, mineralogy and zoology,