

national congress of medicine as pertaining to industrial accidents have resulted in the reconstitution of international collaboration. Austria, Belgium, England, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and Switzerland have indicated their willingness to cooperate. National societies are being formed in several countries. A congress will probably be held in Amsterdam during the present year.

It is reported that the 26-in. telescope sent to South Africa by Yale University will be erected in Milner Park, Johannesburg, close to the Witwatersrand University buildings, and that probably it will be in use within the next three or four months.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

AMONG the educational institutions which will benefit under the will of the late Edmund C. Converse, of New York, are Amherst, Bowdoin, Dartmouth, Leland Stanford, Oberlin, Smith, Trinity, Tuskegee, Wells and Williams colleges. The amount has not yet been made public.

THE University of Washington has recently come into possession of a gift of \$100,000 through the will of Mrs. Josephine McDermott, prominent for many years in commercial and philanthropic work in Seattle. The money is to be invested and the income applied mainly to research work in tuberculosis.

A CHICAGO physician, who has requested that his name be withheld, has given \$150,000 to Northwestern University Medical School for instruction to students in clinical medicine.

DR. PERCY T. WALDEN, professor of chemistry at Yale University, has been appointed dean of the freshman year at the university, to succeed Dean Roswell Parker Angier, who has resigned.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JOS. B. REYNOLDS has been made acting head of the department of mathematics and astronomy at Lehigh University following the death of Professor P. A. Lambert, head of the department.

THE University of Michigan has appointed Dr. James Deacon Bruce, Saginaw, director of the department of internal medicine at the medical school and chief of the medical service in University Hospital, Ann Arbor.

V. G. HELLER has accepted a position as assistant professor of physiological chemistry in the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College.

AT the University of Arizona the following additions to the faculty of the College of Mines and Engineering have been made: F. W. Garran, assistant professor of civil engineering; Wm. M. Kellogg, instructor in electrical engineering; M. L. Thornburg, assistant professor of mechanical engineering; M. J. Leahy, instructor in mechanical engineering; T. S. Lovering, instructor in geology; C. J. Cunningham, professor of metallurgy and ore dressing.

DR. WALTER MAKOWER, chief physicist to the Dunlop Rubber Company, has been appointed professor of science at the Royal Military Academy, England, in succession to Professor J. Young, retired.

DR. FRITZ HILDEBRANDT, lecturer at the University of Heidelberg, has been offered the chair of pharmacology at the Medical Academy in Düsseldorf.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE ALMSHOUSE PAUPERS IN THE UNITED STATES

A PAPER printed in the October 31, 1924, issue of SCIENCE (page 394) by Professor Raymond Pearl arrived at two chief conclusions: (1) "It would appear that any social indictment of the Negro race, as a race, in respect of pauperism would probably be difficult to maintain." (2) "With a few trifling exceptions, all countries from which the present law *encourages* immigration contributed to almshouse pauperism in 1923 in *excess* of their representation in the population of 1920. On the other hand, again with a few trifling exceptions, those countries from which the present immigration law was especially framed to *discourage* immigration . . . contributed a *smaller* proportion to almshouse pauperism in 1923 than their representation in the general population of 1920."

Is it not true that Professor Pearl fails to consider the effect of geographical location of the great bulk of the Negro race, 85 per cent. of whom lived in the southern states (those south of Mason and Dixon's line, the Ohio River, Missouri and Kansas)? Here almshouses are not so essential an institution because of the milder climate, while in addition to the need in the north, we find the wealth, making possible the support of a considerable number of almshouses. There is a marked correlation between the per capita wealth of the several states and the number of almshouse paupers per 10,000 of the population.

The census of almshouse paupers was taken in mid-winter, January 1, 1923. The northern almshouses would, at that time, be filled to capacity, largely with white paupers. The turnover, or the number of discharges in relation to the total number of inmates, per year, was three times as great in the four northern

states, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio and Illinois, as it was in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, indicating that climate has a significant effect upon almshouse pauperism.

No figures showing number of paupers by states for 1923 are available. Such figures may be obtained, however, from the 1910 census of paupers in almshouses. In New York Negroes contributed 1.5 to the general population and 1.6 to the almshouse population. In Illinois, the figures are 1.9 in the general population and 2.6 in the almshouse population; in Indiana Negroes contributed 2.2 and 3.9, in Pennsylvania 2.5 and 4.1 and in Ohio 2.3 and 5.1, respectively. In every state mentioned above the Negroes contributed to almshouse pauperism in excess of their representation in the population.

Nearly 40 per cent. of paupers in almshouses are over 70 years of age. Pauperism, then, is predominantly associated with old age. Consider that fact in connection with the figures of national immigration. According to Professor Pearl's diagram Italian and Russian immigrants showed the smallest proportionate contribution to the almshouse population; German and Irish the largest. Half of the Irish immigration came before 1867, half of the German before 1874, but half of the Russians have arrived since 1907 and half of the Italians since 1906. Patently, therefore, there is a much larger proportion of Irish and Germans who are over 70 years of age. No such conclusions as those of Professor Pearl can be drawn from the figures of the Census Bureau unless these considerations are allowed for.

PERCY L. CLARK, JR.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

IN my former paper on almshouse pauperism (SCIENCE, Vol. 60, pp. 394-397) I attempted only to *describe* accurately and clearly, by both verbal and graphical methods, the latest *facts* about almshouse paupers in the United States. I drew no conclusions about the *reasons* why these facts are as they are, nor did I even discuss reasons. Nothing has so far disturbed my faith in the accuracy of the Census Bureau's collection of facts on this matter.

The essential point of Mr. Clark's paper seems to be that the Census Bureau figures do not furnish all the data necessary to determine the probable causes or reasons for the observed facts about almshouse pauperism. I was aware of this, and accordingly confined myself to a statement of facts.

The reasons put forward by Mr. Clark perhaps play some part in the case, but he has apparently overlooked some factors which my as yet inconclusive study of the matter leads me to believe are more im-

portant than those he discusses. For example the Negro (and in passing one may remark that Mr. Clark's excesses in Negro pauperism in selected northern states in 1910 would be more convincing if it were not for the fact, which he himself emphasizes, that most Negroes live in the south, and also for the fact that Negro almshouse pauperism has decreased since 1910 relatively more than has that of native whites) has a strong aversion to almshouses. The Negro people take care of their own poor and their orphans in their families to a degree which makes it difficult to maintain an almshouse or orphanage population. Occasionally in parts of the south even endowed institutions of this type have to shut down and go out of business because of lack of inmates. This same factor operates with certain other racial groups, particularly some of those of the recent immigration. Social workers among our foreign-born groups know this well. It is probably a much more important factor in explaining the lower incidence of almshouse population in these racial groups than the age distribution factor which Mr. Clark mentions, though of course that probably also does play some part. But Mr. Clark's contribution on this point is slightly misleading. He says: "Nearly 40 per cent. of paupers in almshouses are over 70 years of age." In 1910, the last year for which the age distribution figures for almshouse paupers are available, there were 84,198 paupers enumerated in almshouses on January 1. Of these 25,586 were 70 years of age or over. This works out to 30.4 per cent. This figure seems to be nearer 30 than 40.

RAYMOND PEARL

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

AN APPARENTLY OVERLOOKED SOURCE BOOK OF BIOLOGICAL HISTORY

THE translation of Aristotle's "*Historia animalium*," prepared by Armand Gaston Camus and published in Paris in 1783, has recently come to my attention for the first time. As a translation it is probably only one of many—lacking exceptional qualities. One may find a few references to it in the critical studies that have appeared since. In one regard, however, its possibilities have been largely overlooked. As a source book of biological history it seems to deserve more recognition.

The first of the two volumes contains the translation, the Greek and French being printed on opposite pages. The second volume is devoted to the "notes." Ordinarily the notes accompanying a translation from the classics are meaningful only to a Greek or Latin scholar, but that is not the case with those of Camus. In addition to a twenty-seven page résumé of the