from studies which lie in the realm between geology and astronomy.

Side by side with these essays came others in the fundamental principles for the classification of geologic time, and most notably arguments favoring the successive diastrophic upheavals as the events which marked off the eras and periods from one another. These contributions constitute a fourth group to be mentioned on an equal footing with the other three cited.

In summary, I may, therefore, select from the long series of contributions which Professor Chamberlin has made to our science the four which may be described, in accordance with the phraseology on the medal, as "outstanding contributions to the earth sciences":

(1) The contributions on the lead and zinc veins of the Upper Mississippi Valley.

(2) The contributions on the Ice Age.

(3) The contributions on the Planetesimal Hypothesis and on the subjects which lie along the borderland between geology and astronomy.

(4) The contributions on Diastrophism as a principle in the subdivision of geological time.

Not alone for these, however, do we award the Penrose Medal. It is, also, an expression of the deep affection and respect with which Professor Chamberlin is universally regarded by geologists, at home and abroad.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE BRITISH ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

THE Royal Anthropological Institute, according to the *British Medical Journal,* has been promised a substantial grant, from the trustees of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, for the development of its library. This grant has been made by the trustees in pursuance of their policy of linking up special libraries with the General Library for Students. By an arrangement with the Royal Anthropological Institute, the books and periodicals in the library of the latter, except such as are rare or irreplaceable, will become available to the general public who make application for the loan of books through the central library. The central library will thus be relieved of the necessity of buying such books, and at the same time will have the benefit of the expert knowledge and guidance of the officials of the institute. As the institute's library includes a wide range of periodicals, some of which are not elsewhere accessible in this country, these facilities should be of considerable advantage to students who are not in a position to obtain access to anthropological literature through other channels. Mr. C. G. Seligman, president of the Royal Anthropological Institute, states that the council of the institute is influenced by a desire that its facilities for the study of man should become more widely known. The council holds that knowledge of the racial affinities, ways of thought and social organization of the primitive peoples of the British Empire can not be too widely extended among the general public, if only to bring about a fuller appreciation of the importance of the study of anthropology in helping to solve the difficulties of administration among backward peoples. In spite of the grant made by the Carnegie trust and the sums subscribed by its fellows, the institute is still far from being in a position to undertake the whole of the work that it is its duty to perform. He therefore appeals, not only to those whose interest in anthropology is academic, but also to those who realize that a sound knowledge of ethnology is an essential factor in the equipment of colonial administrators. It is on the knowledge which the latter may acquire that the well-being and security of colonial possessions depend. For the British Empire, the problem of the government of native races exists on a scale much greater than for any other power.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PATENTS BY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY will hereafter be prepared to take over patents arising from discoveries made in its own laboratories. Sanction of the Board of Trustees has been obtained for the plan. To take care of cases arising from this ruling, an Administrative Board of University Patents has been established, with the following members:

President Nicholas Murray Butler; Treasurer Frederick A. Goetze; Frederick Coykendall and Archibald Douglas, trustees; Walter I. Slichter, professor of electrical engineering; Ralph H. McKee, professor of chemical engineering; Frederick T. van Beuren, associate dean of the medical school; Thomas Ewing and Dr. Milton C. Whitaker, former professor of chemical engineering.

The trustees acted upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education,

that while no university officer should be under compulsion to assign to the university any patent that might be issued to him for a discovery of his own, even if that discovery were made in the university's laboratories, nevertheless the university should be prepared to accept the assignment of such patents in cases where that action approves itself to the judgment of a competent university authority.

Members of this board in handling the inventions so patented may

make arrangements on such terms and in such way as they may approve for the use, manufacture, sale, or other disposition thereof, or of rights therein, with power to arrange for the use or division of the proceeds thereof.

The powers of the board also extend to trademarks or proprietary names and copyrights of literary works owned or produced by members of the teaching staff and others. In other words, this board

has been given authority in their discretion, subject to the direction and control of the trustees, to accept for and on behalf of the university by assignment or otherwise, either directly or through trustees or holding corporations, patents, patent applications, royalties, licenses, or rights therein, covering discoveries, inventions, or processes, whether produced by members of the teaching staff of the university, by use of university laboratories, or otherwise.

The central purpose is by the cooperation of the university, to protect the discoverer or inventor of a patentable article or process, to insure that the public be served under the best possible conditions and at a reasonable price and to enable the university itself to share in the benefits of the patent, to the end that the funds at its disposal for the promotion of research may be increased.

Official discussion of the problem began at Columbia following the discovery by Dr. Theodore F. Zucker, associate in pathology, of a chemical product which appears to be a specific remedy for the disease of rickets, common among young children. Dr. Zucker desired to assign to the university the patents issued to him to cover this invention, with a view of assuring to the university the royalties and safeguarding for the public a new and effective medical remedy made under the best possible conditions and sold at a reasonable price.

GEOLOGY AND PHYSIOGRAPHY AT THE NORTHWEST SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION

AT the first annual meeting of the Northwest Scientific Association held in Spokane on April 10 and 11, 1924, a section of geology and geography was organized under the chairmanship of President C. H. Clapp, of the University of Montana. The section met in two sessions and a number of papers on the geology of the Northwest were read. For the meeting in April, 1925, in addition to the reading and discussion of papers a short excursion has been proposed. Within the limits of the city of Spokane is to be found much of geological interest and the local workers are desirous of having their observations "checked" by visitors. The objective selected for the excursion is the gravel-pit at Pantops near the southeast corner of the city. Chief interest here is in an unusual deposit of gravel of glacial outwash origin in which are great numbers of large angular, unworn boulders which appear to have been "plucked" from the top of Little Baldy, a low mountain five miles distant on the north side of Spokane Valley. The electric railroad in using this gravel has exposed several acres, removing the gravel from the boulders. The deposit appears to have been laid down in the water of glacial "Lake Spokane" (SCIENCE, N. S. Vol. LVI, pp. 335–336, 1922). This place is at the eastern margin of the local glaciation. In the immediate neighborhood of Pantops may be seen crumpled crystalline rocks (Pre-Cambrian?), Tertiary basalts and "micaceous clays" bearing fossil leaves (also Tertiary), the beginning of the "Columbia Scablands," where the ice-diverted Columbia drainage swept the basalts bare and a post-glacial lake (Glenrose) now in prosperous farms. Typical glacial ground moraine similar to that of the sandy parts of the "lake states" may be seen on the west border of the Glenrose basin.

Transportation will be furnished to those indicating their wish to go on this excursion at the time of registration. The route, going, is for almost the entire distance over the moraine of a glacier which seems to have stopped against the basalt cliffs on the south side of the valley at this place. An intermediate point of interest is a pile of enormous ice-moved, basaltic boulders mingled with other morainic material. For those who wish to do so the return may be along the line of the electric road on foot. This distance is about three miles. To be seen is the contact of basalt and the earlier crystallines, contact of successive lava flows and interesting erosion and basalt forms.

To those who can spend more of the week in geological exploration attempt will be made to furnish competent guides. It is believed that the region will well repay a careful study with Spokane as a base. Outstanding geologic features are, the "fossil Tertiary valleys" cast in basalt at the margin of the great Columbia lava-flow, the beds of plant fossils, the Palouse soils, the evidences of successive glaciations and the effects of ice-diversion of the Columbia drainage, in particular the Mica Outlet of "Lake Spokane" and the North Pine Creek-Rosalia channel as representing farthest east diversion of Columbia River (Grand Coulee being the farthest west).

T. LARGE,
Acting Secretary

SPOKANE, MARCH 7, 1925

THE MADRID INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

ANNOUNCEMENT of the preliminary plans for the Fourteenth International Geological Congress has been received from the office of the general secretary, Senor E. Dupuy de Lôme, at the Geological Institute of Spain, Plaza de los Mostenses 2, Madrid. The congress will be held in Madrid in May and June, 1926.

Following the practice of earlier congresses, the