J. S. GAMBLE, F.R.S., lately conservator of forests in India and director of the Imperial Forest School, Dehra Dun, died on October 16, aged seventy-eight years.

J. SAMOILOFF, professor of mineralogy at the Academy of Agriculture, Moscow, died suddenly on September 29 in his fifty-fifth year. A correspondent writes that Professor Samoiloff was a devoted student of the problems of the sedimentary rocks, on which he and his students in spite of difficult conditions have been carrying on active investigations during recent years. His special interest was in the contribution of organisms to both the rarer and the more common chemical constituents of these rocks, an interest which doubtless resulted from his extensive work on the great phosphate deposits of Russia. His unforeseen death is particularly unfortunate at this time, as the International Geologic Congress, which meets next year in Spain, is compiling a report on phosphate deposits, on which he was probably the greatest living authority.

THE forty-third annual meeting of the American Society of Naturalists will be held in New Haven, Conn., from December 28 to 30, in conjunction with the meetings of the American Society of Zoologists, the Geological Society of America, the Paleontological Society and the Mineralogical Society of America, under the auspices of Yale University and on the occasion of the dedication of the Peabody Museum. Plans are nearly completed for a symposium on "The structure of protoplasm" to be held, forenoon and afternoon, on December 30. Owing to the fact that the joint genetics sections of the American Society of Zoologists and the Botanical Society of America will hold their official program in Kansas City, the American Society of Naturalists has arranged to take charge of a program given jointly by the society and the joint genetics sections in New Haven. Members of this society are therefore invited to contribute papers on genetics. Papers should not occupy more than 15 minutes in presentation. Headquarters of the society will be at the Hotel Taft.

THE joint genetics program, to be given at both Kansas City and New Haven, will be open to all members of the Botanical Society of America and the American Society of Zoologists and others by introduction. The program at New Haven will be given jointly with the American Society of Naturalists and will be open to members of that society. The official meeting of the genetics sections will be held at Kansas City in conjunction with the meeting of the Botanical Society. The program at Kansas City as tentatively arranged will be given on December 29, 30 and 31, and at New Haven on December 28, 29 and 30. Titles to be placed on the printed programs for either place should reach the secretary of the genetics sections, D. F. Jones, of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, by November 20.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

AT the University of Chicago, Professor A. A. Michelson, head of the department of physics since the founding of the university; Dr. Ludwig Hektoen, head of the department of pathology since 1901, and Dean Albion W. Small, head of the department of sociology and anthropology since 1892, are resigning as executive heads of their departments. Their places will be taken by Professor Henry G. Gale, Professor H. Gideon Wells and Professor Ellsworth Faris.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY opened the year with a number of new department heads. The vacancy at the head of the department of zoology made by the retirement of Dr. Gilbert is filled by Professor John O. Snyder, '97, who has been connected with the teaching force of the department since his graduation. Dr. George J. Peirce, professor of botany and plant physiology, becomes head of the department of botany to succeed Dr. Campbell, who retired at the end of last year.

DR. ALDO CASTELLANI, now professor in the London School of Tropical Medicine, has accepted an appointment as head of the department of tropical medicine at Tulane University of Louisiana School of Medicine, New Orleans, and will arrive in that city in December. According to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, the reorganized department of tropical medicine will have three assistant professors and a staff of technicians and will provide training for undergraduate and graduate students; it will conduct research on the dietary problems of tropical climes, on disturbances arising from fungi, on the parasitic diseases and on the results of exposure to tropical sunlight.

DR. HOLMES C. JACKSON, professor of physiology in the New York University and Bellevue Medical College, has been named dean of the New York College of Dentistry.

DR. H. M. PARSHLEY, of Smith College, has been promoted from associate professorship to be professor of zoology.

EDWIN KURTZ, assistant professor of electrical engineering at the Iowa State College, Ames, has been appointed head of the department of electrical engineering of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Oklahoma.

W. T. DAWSON, acting professor of physiology and director of laboratory of pharmacology, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, has been appointed associate professor of physiology in the Medical Department of the University of Texas.

J. A. CARROLL, assistant director of the Solar Physics Observatory at the University of Cambridge, has been appointed university lecturer in astrophysics for five years.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE FLORIDA MAN

IN SCIENCE of September 18, Dr. W. H. Holmes, under the title of "The antiquity phantom in American archeology," devotes two pages to caustic criticism of my report of finding human artifacts associated with the bones of mammoth in Florida. Had Dr. Holmes been considerate enough to give me some idea of his intention in this matter, I do not think he would have published such a paper; for he would have known that Amherst College, in conjunction with the Bureau of Ethnology of the Smithsonian Institution, sent a joint expedition this last summer to the Florida field to get more data on this controverted question; and that in four widely separate stations, one at Vero and three near Melbourne, either human bones or artifacts were found, always in association with the bones of mammoth and mastodon, and in such a manner as to make it sure that man and these elephants lived at the same time. Had Dr. Holmes examined either the artifacts or the deposits at Melbourne or Vero, he could hardly lecture on burial mounds, uprooted trees or quarrying for flints in the mucks and sands of Florida.

That Florida has oscillarted in level, and that such rivers as the St. Johns and Indian and their tributaries with their channels below sea level are drowned rivers should be clear to one with Dr. Holmes's geological experience; and the time when this downward movement took place will be determined by the content of the fills, that is, by the bones of mammoth, horse, tapir, etc., found in the sand and muck which fill these older channels. Geologists are not "slow to recognize the fact that human relics belonging on or near the surface are liable to intrusion," but having studied these stream deposits, must decide whether they have been disturbed. Had Dr. Holmes ever examined these beds, showing uniformly two corresponding horizons, each with its peculiar fauna, and recurring in at least five different stream channels, separated in the extreme by forty miles, he would surely look for some other explanation than accidents.

As to the Pleistocene age of the human bones, our results of last summer, soon to be published, show that they do not belong to the older horizon, but to the upper bed; and that whatever the age of the elephants, the age of the man is the same. Dr. Holmes asks geologists to reserve their final determinations until beyond the danger of error. The only way this question can be settled is to report all first hand data, and it is from the facts gathered on the spot that it must be settled. As to Indians finding fossil bones uncovered by the streams and utilizing them for making implements, this is absurd, as any one who has collected these bones knows how soft they are when uncovered and how punk-like they remain, even when dry. I would like also to state that the collecting done by Dr. Sellards at Vero was carefully done and minutely recorded and is not to be disregarded without proper field study. Finally, such a question as this will only be settled by cooperation between geologists and archeologists.

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EVIDENCE ON BASIN RANGE STRUCTURE

THE origin and structure of the Basin Ranges has been actively discussed ever since King and Gilbert gave publicity to their different views on this problem. The discussion has been continued recently by several geologists. Keyes[1] vigorously opposes the fault-block hypothesis, stating that a normal fault has not as yet been revealed in any piedmont belt. Ransome[2] cites the normal fault at Jerome, Arizona, which forms the eastern front of a mountain mass locally known as the Black Hills, as a clearly demonstrable example of the type of structure believed to be characteristic of the Basin Ranges. But the Jerome fault is located near the southeastern boundary of the Great Basin province, and the Black Hills might not be considered as a typical Basin Range by some geologists. In a recent paper Davis[3] has summarized the evidence in favor of block faulting as an explanation of Basin Range structure.

In all discussions of the Basin Range problem seen by me there has been no reference to the faulting that occurred along the western base of the Sonoma Range in central Nevada at the time of the Pleasant Valley earthquake of October 2, 1915. This earthquake was investigated, at the time, by Professor J. Claude Jones, who published a very interesting account of

[1] Keyes, Charles, "Geology of Nevada," *Pan. Amer. Geol.*, vol. 40, p. 36, 1923.

[2] Ransome, F. L., "Basin range structure at Jerome, Arizona," SCIENCE, vol. 61, pp. 659–660, 1925.

[3] Davis, W. M., "The basin range problem," Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci., vol. 11, pp. 387–392, 1925.