

mineralogical and geological subjects for *Chemical Abstracts* and in 1922 became associate editor of that division of the journal. He also contributed numerous abstracts to the *American Mineralogist* and the *Revue de Géologie*. In all he prepared over twelve hundred abstracts for these publications, in addition to several book reviews. In 1923 he was also appointed associate editor of the *American Mineralogist*.

Dr. Holden attended the organization meeting of the Mineralogical Society of America in December, 1919, and became a charter member. In 1922 he was elected to fellowship in the society. He was also a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the Michigan Academy of Science and of the Junior Research Club of the University of Michigan. He also held membership in the Tau Beta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Xi societies.

The intense scholarly activity and splendid scientific achievement of this short life of twenty-four years will remain an exceptional record in the history of American mineralogy.

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SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE MERGER OF THE ARMOUR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WITH NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

FORMAL steps toward the merger of Armour Institute of Technology with Northwestern University were taken on January 9, when the trustees of the two institutions signed contracts detailing the affiliation plan.

The plan includes the raising of a \$10,000,000 endowment fund; erection on Northwestern University's Evanston campus of 10 new dormitories for men at an estimated cost of \$80,000 each; expansion to three times its size of the Swift hall of engineering at Northwestern; construction of one addition to machinery hall; construction of two new science buildings and the erection of one machinery hall on Northwestern's downtown campus to accommodate between 800 to 1,000 part-time students.

The new engineering school will be known as the Armour College of Engineering of Northwestern University. The retention of the Armour name is in memory of Philip D. Armour, whose initial contribution of \$1,000,000 in 1893 founded the Armour Institute.

The plan assumes that the Chicago Art Institute will continue to house the Armour School of Architecture. Pointing to the need for a great college of engineering and architecture, Dr. Howard M. Ray-

mond, president of the Armour Institute of Technology, said:

It seems justly logical that a union with Northwestern University should result in a greater educational efficiency and an ability for public service such as could never be attained by either as they exist to-day.

President Walter Dill Scott, of Northwestern University, said:

Chicago's motto is "I will." The men behind this fine plan are among the leaders of this great center. They represent that spirit. I think that answers the question—can this worthy thing be done?

The fast-growing population of the Mississippi Valley is causing constant expansion and enlargement of the facilities for supplying electricity, gas, street cars and related utilities. With the existing limited facilities for training engineers, competent ones can not be graduated rapidly enough to meet the demand.

Mr. Insull visualizes for Chicago the finest school of engineering in the middle west, if not in the country. He is a man of foresight and his cordial endorsement of our plans has encouraged Armour Institute and Northwestern to approach the merger with greater confidence.

THE NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE executive committee of the New York Zoological Society has submitted a report to the board of managers covering the period June 20, 1925, to October 15, 1925:

On January 29, 1925, the appropriation for the alteration of the aquarium became available and contracts amounting to \$33,818 have been awarded and work has been commenced. The contracts call for the completion of the interior and for a coat of stucco on the exterior, but the appropriation is insufficient to provide for a parapet on top of the wall, which is much needed for the appearance of the building and must be added later.

On July 31, an appropriation of \$24,000 became available for the substitution of a copper roof for the present polychrome tiles on the dome and flat roofs of the elephant house. Contracts will be shortly awarded, but the work can not be commenced until early next spring. An appropriation of \$32,000 was made for much needed improvements and repairs at the park. This work is now under way. The chief repairs consist of: Repairs to the smaller buildings, reconstruction of the blacksmith shop, new boundary fence, replacement of wornout water lines and repaving the Concourse.

On September 30, the balance to the credit of the several funds of the society amounted to \$66,681.80.

The attendance at the park from June 15, 1925, to October 16, 1925, was 1,171,457, while the attend-

ance at the aquarium for the same length of time was 804,397.

The July *Bulletin*, which was devoted to the *Arcturus* expedition, has been issued. *Zoologica*, Volume 4, Numbers 3 and 4; and Volume 6, Numbers 4 and 5, have been issued; also the index for *Zoologica*, Volume 3.

On the 30th day of July the steamer *Arcturus* returned from a voyage to the Sargasso Sea and the Humboldt Current off the Galapagos Islands. Mr. William Beebe found that the former had been scattered by storms, so the *Arcturus* passed through the Panama Canal to the region of the Galapagos. The expedition reached there at a most opportune moment, as the Humboldt Current had been deflected by unknown causes, with the result that marine life was greatly disturbed and a unique opportunity was afforded for observation. The *Arcturus* found volcanos in active operation, pouring lava into the sea and destroying marine life. The total cost of the expedition will be upwards of \$184,000, of which Mr. Harrison Williams will have given a total of \$140,476.

Dr. Raymond L. Ditmars left New York on August 15, 1925, on a scientific mission to Brazil. It has been through extractions of snake venoms made by Dr. Ditmars and sent to the Instituto Soro Therapico, at Sao Paulo, that anti-venines specific for the bites of North American poisonous serpents have been supplied to this country. The Brazilian authorities were in need of sufficient venom to carry on the production of the characteristic serums for the United States. Dr. Ditmars took with him a fluid gallon of rattlesnake venom—the largest amount that has ever been provided for laboratory purposes—and was assured by Dr. Vital Brazil, at Sao Paulo, that this amount would be sufficient to last for approximately thirty years of immunization work. Dr. Ditmars returned with a quantity of the most powerful serum ever prepared for the United States, a fine series of living Brazilian reptiles, and materials for articles for the society's publications.

The need of an endowment fund is pressing and the executive committee has appointed a committee of Messrs. Irving K. Taylor, Henry D. Whiton, Bayard Dominick, Henry F. Osborn, Jr., and Madison Grant, ex-officio, to undertake a campaign to raise \$1,500,000 for the general endowment of the society. Towards this sum the conditional subscriptions of \$500,000 of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and \$100,000 of Edward S. Harkness are available, leaving \$900,000 to be raised. The members of the board of managers are requested to cooperate with this committee.

THE JAMES SIMPSON-ROOSEVELT EXPEDITION OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

THEODORE AND KERMIT ROOSEVELT, leading the James Simpson-Roosevelt expedition into central Asia for the Field Museum, have not only obtained eight of the rare *Ovis Poli* (Marco Polo sheep) but have secured the finest representative collection of big game ever taken in the western Himalayas, the Pamirs and Chinese Turkestan, according to an announcement made by D. C. Davies, director of the museum, following the receipt of letters from Col. Theodore Roosevelt to James Simpson, who is financing the expedition, and to Stanley Field, president of the institution.

"We got four male *Poli*, two young males, a female and a young animal," wrote Col. Roosevelt. "Out of this assortment the museum can get the finest and, so far as I know, the only group of *Poli* in the world." Forty-four large animals were secured during what Col. Roosevelt calls "the big trek through Turkestan, the Tien Shan and the Himalayas." The specimens include eleven Tien Shan Ibex and three *Ovis Karelini*, or Tien Shan sheep. Of this game Col. Roosevelt says: "We have for the museum two record heads, an Ibex and a *Karelini*, both of which fell to Kermit's rifle. I was fortunate enough to get the largest *Ovis Poli*."

After leaving the Russian Pamirs, the Roosevelts went to Srinagar, Kashmir, where they were met by their wives, who will remain in India until the second leg of the expedition into the central provinces of India and into Nepal is carried out. The hunters are now on the trail of the famous "armor-plated" rhinoceros and royal Bengal tiger, as well as other large game, including the leopard, wild boar and Indian deer. They are receiving assistance from Indian and British officials and are being permitted to hunt in protected areas for the rare beasts.

According to Col. Roosevelt's letter the expedition will leave the field about January 20 and return to the United States in February.

THE NORTON BRONZE TABLET AT CORNELL COLLEGE

THERE was recently unveiled at Cornell College, Iowa, a bronze tablet commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Dr. William Harmon Norton's occupancy of the chair of geology. Unveiling of the tablet took place immediately after the dedicatory exercises of the Law Memorial Hall, the new home of the geological and biological departments of the college, and as a part of the proceedings. The erection of the building dedicated to the service of geology was made possible through the munificence of Reverend Doctor Marion Law, of Narragansett, Rhode Island.