

of commerce, who shall also take such steps as he may deem necessary to make this act effective.

### RESOLUTIONS ON THE FREEDOM OF TEACHING

THE following resolutions on freedom of teaching have been adopted by unanimous vote of the Sigma Xi Club of Southern California, and ordered sent to *SCIENCE* and the Los Angeles papers for publication:

*Resolved*, that the Sigma Xi Club of Southern California views with amazement and concern the propaganda that is going on in certain parts of the country, having as its object the restriction of the freedom of teaching in science.

We would remind the thinking public:

- (1) that our civil, religious, intellectual and economic progress has resulted very largely from this freedom within the schools, colleges and universities of the land. To attempt to take away this constitutional right is a return to the methods of the Middle Ages.
- (2) of certain essential characteristics of the method of science:
  - (a) a sincere search for truth without reference to the effect of such truth upon previous opinion or belief.
  - (b) that any statement of the findings of science is in the nature of the case a statement of the balance of evidence and not a dogmatic assertion of finality. Even the "law" of gravity is subject to revision or restatement.
  - (c) that there is and can be no conflict between religion and science: to assert the contrary is to misunderstand the scope of both.

We urge all representatives of science in school, college or university:

- (1) to indicate a love for zealous research after truth and loyalty to truth when found.
- (2) to exemplify in their own attitude both the dignity of science and the proper restraint of the workman in science. Only so can we deserve the support of enlightened public opinion.

We hereby express our hearty approval of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in its efforts to assist in reaching a prompt, clear and just understanding in regard to the rights of teachers of science.

### GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES AT PASADENA

THE California Institute of Technology is organizing a staff of instruction and research in geology and paleontology. Dr. John P. Buwalda, formerly professor of geology at Yale University and the University of California, and Dr. Chester Stock, of the University of California, will be in charge of the developments in these two fields of geologic science. Instruction in geology is already being given by Dr. Buwalda.

A research laboratory of seismology has been constructed by the institute and will be equipped by the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Investigations and advanced instruction will be carried on in it under a cooperative arrangement between the two institutions.

In the developments in geology, paleontology and seismology the California Institute will place emphasis primarily on graduate study and research, as has been done in its older science departments of physics, chemistry and mathematics. Provision has also been made, however, for a four-year course of undergraduate study.

Several teaching and research fellowships, both in geology and paleontology, are offered for the year 1926-27 and thereafter.

### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. GRAHAM LUSK, professor of physiology at the Cornell University Medical College and director of the Russell Sage Institute of Pathology, was the guest on February 15 at a dinner given for him at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York City, by 130 friends to celebrate his sixtieth birthday. The speakers were William J. Schieffelin, Dr. Frederic S. Lee, Dr. Russell H. Chittenden, Dr. W. H. Howell, Dr. A. B. Macallum, Dr. Elliot P. Joslin and Dr. Lusk.

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of Professor Edward L. Thorndike's connection with Teachers College, Columbia University, was celebrated on Friday, February 19, with a dinner at which about two hundred and fifty of Professor Thorndike's colleagues, former students and friends were present. Professor Eugene L. Smith presided, and there were speeches by Dean James E. Russell, Dr. Frederick P. Keppel, Dr. J. McKeen Cattell, Professor G. D. Strayer, President Henry Suzzallo, Dr. R. S. Woodworth, President Nicholas Murray Butler and Dr. Thorndike.

DR. MICHAEL I. PUPIN was the principal speaker at the fiftieth commemoration day exercises of the Johns Hopkins University on February 22. On the same day he was the guest of honor at a luncheon given by Dr. and Mrs. Frank J. Goodnow.

AT a meeting of the Royal Society of Medicine held on January 19 the following seven medical men were elected to the honorary fellowship of the society: Dr. William James Mayo and Dr. Charles Horace Mayo, of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester; Major-General Sir David Bruce, Sir Henry Morris, a former president of the society; Dr. Fritz de Quervain, professor of surgery and director of the surgical clinic, University of Berne; Dr. Camillo Golgi, emeritus professor of histology, Royal University of Pavia (whose subsequent death has been announced), and Dr. Karl F. J. Sudhoff, professor of the history of medicine, University of Leipzig.