the state payment for the animal made after it was ordered shot, the tag was removed and the cow transferred to another, who proceeded to again collect damages from the state.

THE Royal Veterinary and Agricultural College of Denmark, from August 24 to 27, celebrated the completion of an extensive building program which has greatly increased its research and educational facilities. The dedication ceremonies were attended by the King, members of the cabinet, foreign diplomats and scientists representing the following countries: United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Finland, Poland, Switzerland, Holland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Italy and Spain. The director of the college, Professor H. O. G. Ellinger, delivered the principal address using seven different languages. Technical addresses were delivered by Professor Hutyra (Hungary), Dr. Tage U. H. Ellinger (United States), Professor P. Guinier (France), Professor Marchlewski (Poland), Professor H. Perrin (France) and several members of the Danish faculty.

THE *Official Record* of the United States Department of Agriculture states that representatives of ten of the leading forestry schools of the country gathered at the Forest Products Laboratory of the Forest Service at Madison, Wis., during the week of August 30 for the second annual Forest School Conference. The purpose of the conference is to harmonize research on forest products as carried on by the Forest Service at the Madison laboratory and by the various schools of forestry and to promote the exchange of information between these agencies. The time of the recent conference was given to detailed presentations and discussions of "Utilization Methods employed by Industry to Use and Prevent Wood Waste."

Industrial and Engineering Chemistry summarizes information contained in a recent publication of the United States Civil Service Commission entitled "Opportunities for Chemists in the U. S. Civil Service" as follows: It confirms the fact that the government is a notoriously poor employer so far as rates are concerned. There are 805 chemists noted in this publication. A classification by income shows the following: five at \$6,000–7,500; thirty-four at \$5,200–6,000; one at \$4,500; one at \$4,200; twenty-seven at \$3,800–5,200; seventy-five at \$3,800–5,000; two at \$3,800; six at \$3,300–3,900; five at \$3,200–3,400; one at \$3,000–3,900; one hundred and eighty-five at \$3,000–3,600; three at \$2,700–3,000; two hundred and thirty-two at \$2,400–3,000; one at \$2,400–2,700; four at \$2,100–2,700; five at \$2,100–2,500; three at \$2,000–2,250; one hundred and sixty-six at \$1,800–2,400; forty-nine at day rates in navy. A classification by specialists shows that of the 805 there are 314 analysts, 45 inorganic chemists, 96 physical chemists, 206 organic chemists, 94 under more than one classification and 50 devoting themselves to executive work.

THE United States Department of the Interior announced recently that educational work in the National Parks of the West is being carried on this year on a larger scale than ever. The Field School of Natural History which was inaugurated in Yosemite National Park last year, has been continued during 1926. Three times as many persons have sought enrollment this year as in 1925. Two years of college work or the equivalent is necessary for enrollment. The work of the field school supplements the lower division university courses in botany and zoology, bringing first-hand acquaintance with various living forms. As the school is a contribution to nature education by the National Park Service, assisted by the California Fish and Game Commission, no tuition is charged. Lecture room, library and other facilities are available in the new museum building.

A SYSTEMATIC biological survey of Mt. Desert Island and the surrounding waters is being carried forward under the leadership of Mr. Wm. Procter, of Bar Harbor, Maine. The survey will deal first with the marine fauna in determining what and where the various forms may be found and in obtaining information regarding their breeding habits. The results will, if approved, be published at once and in accumulative form from year to year as the work progresses, so that such information as is acquired may be immediately available to investigators who wish to work at Mt. Desert. A corps of competent zoologists was organized for the work during 1926, headed by Dr. Henry C. Tracy, of the University of Kansas. When the survey is completed in part it will be presented to the Mt. Desert Island Biological Laboratory for publication and for the use of the workers at this laboratory.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

ON the occasion of the opening lecture of Dr. Fritz Paneth as visiting professor at Cornell University, it was announced that the anonymous donor of the \$250,000 given last year to the university for non-resident lectureships in chemistry is Mr. George F. Baker, of New York, financier and philanthropist.

THE Studebaker Corporation, of South Bend, Ind., has given to Harvard University the sum of \$10,000 a year for two years as a fund for research into the best methods of regulating street traffic. Dr. Miller McClintock is in charge of the work.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY has established a department of plant pathology at the College of Agriculture and appointed Dr. William H. Martin, professor of plant

pathology, as head of the department. It was also voted to establish a department of water supplies and sewage disposal, with Dr. Willem Rudolfs in charge.

PROFESSOR F. H. ALBEE has resigned the chair of orthopedic surgery at the University of Vermont. The position has been filled by the appointment of Dr. B. H. Whitbeck, of New York City.

DR. PHILIP H. MITCHELL has been promoted from an associate to a full professorship of physiology at Brown University. He has been a member of the Brown faculty since 1907.

W. B. JEWELL, Ph.D. (Princeton, '26), has been appointed assistant professor of geology at Vanderbilt University.

AT the Utah Agricultural College, Dr. W. W. Henderson has been appointed professor of entomology and Dr. F. B. Wann associate professor of botany.

APPOINTMENTS in the college of mines and engineering of the University of Arizona have been made as follows: Professor James C. Clark, of the Westinghouse Electric Company, will be acting professor of electrical engineering during the absence of Dr. Paul Clarke; E. J. Borquist, of the University of Utah, will take the place of Professor Frank Garron, who has accepted a position in the faculty of the University of North Carolina, in the civil engineering department; Dr. R. J. Leonard, formerly of the University of Minnesota and the Oregon Agricultural College, will take the chair of geology and mineralogy left vacant by Professor Vincent L. Ayres.

DR. PEDRO N. ORTIZ has been appointed professor of tropical diseases at the Columbia School of Tropical Medicine, at San Juan, Porto Rico.

DISCUSSION

THE METRIC MOVEMENT

IN the House of Representatives, May 13, 1926, Mr. Britten introduced a joint resolution, relating to the establishment of commodity quantity units for general use in merchandising after 1935. The resolution is brief, consisting of about six lines, namely:

> That the United States Department of Commerce is authorized to establish commodity quantity units for general use in merchandising after 1935, standardizing the yard to the meter, the quart to the liter, the pound to five hundred grams, decimally divided.

Mr. Britten, it may be recalled, introduced H. R. Bill 10, extending the use of metric weights and measures in merchandising which gave the manufacturer and business man ten years to accommodate himself to conditions arising from the adoption of a metric system of weights and measures. Mr. Britten has made a long and praiseworthy fight to provide legislation lifting business methods out of the quagmire of antiquated, unscientific and inappropriate units.

It may be of interest to run over briefly the arguments advanced by those who are opposed to the introduction of metric units, as shown in the Hearings before the House Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, 69th Congress. In the main, these objections rest on anticipated expense, confusion and litigation.

A prime purpose of those who favor the use of the metric system is of course to eliminate confusion; but the opponents of the system persist in claiming that great confusion will result.

A typical line of argument is that of the American Railway Engineering Association. In the opinion of certain engineers it would cost the railroads of this country:

For changing mile posts	$ 1,835,000
For changing tariffs	100,000,000
For changing standard plans	15,000,000
For changing shop machinery, tools, etc.	216,000,000
Add also maintenance of property	60,000,000
And 6 per cent. on additional investment	19,970,000
Grand total over	400,000,000

Comment is hardly needed. Wear and tear of brain by engineers and others might have been included and listed at several million dollars. Nor has it occurred to these gentlemen that there might be some offset as the years rolled on due to the use of simplified accounts, time-saving units and scientific methods.

Opposed to this bugbear of expense, largely imaginative, may be set the experience of the Baldwin Locomotive Works filling an order on drawings made in metric units.

> The engines went through the shops without any extra cost or expense over and above what they would have cost built on the English system and with fewer mistakes than they would have expected to occur in the English system.

It may be recalled, too, that the bugbear of expense was held out as an objection to the introduction of proper heating apparatus in railway cars. Ditto automatic couplers. Ditto almost every improvement looking to safety of the travelling public. And yet no railroad man to-day would wish to return to coal stoves, old-fashioned brakes and couplers.

The attitude of the manufacturer is perhaps best shown by the testimony of the representative of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. His concluding words are:

> You talk to a scientific man and he will say "I am in favor of the metric system. I think it is good." Now