

November 30, Dr. L. R. G. Crandon, Boston, Mass.; December 3, Dr. Walter F. Prince, Boston Society for Psychic Research; December 4, Professor F. C. S. Schiller, Oxford University, England; December 7, Dr. Gardner Murphy, Columbia University; December 8, Mr. Frederick Bligh Bond, British Society for Psychical Research; December 9, Mrs. Margaret Deland, American novelist; December 11, Professor Hans Driesch, president, British Society for Psychical Research. Manuscripts by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, of England, Professor William McDougall, of Harvard University, Professor John E. Coover, of Stanford University, Mrs. Mary Austin, American novelist, and others will be read.

SMITHSONIAN Radio Talks, arranged by Mr. Austin H. Clark, are being given as follows from Station WRC, Washington: December 1, at 6:45 p. m., "Early American Animals—Elephants and Others," Mr. James W. Gidley, U. S. National Museum; December 8, at 6:45 p. m., "Shooting Stars," Dr. Willard J. Fisher, Harvard College Observatory; December 15, at 6:45 p. m., "An Observatory among the Hottentots," Dr. Charles G. Abbot, assistant secretary, Smithsonian Institution.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

TULANE UNIVERSITY will receive about \$1,000,000 by the will of the late William Ratcliffe Irby.

FIVE gifts totaling \$650,000 from members of the Vanderbilt family to be applied to the \$4,000,000 building and endowment fund being raised by Vanderbilt University for the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Engineering have been announced. An additional gift of \$150,000 has been made by the General Education Board.

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY has received a grant of \$975,000 from the General Education Board. The sum of \$750,000 is to be used to build an institution of pathology for the school of medicine of Western Reserve and its affiliated hospitals. The board is giving the university the sum of \$75,000 a year for the next three years, beginning on January 1, 1927, for the budget of the entire school of medicine. Work will start shortly on the erection of the new pathology institute. The plans call for a four-story building, a hundred and fifty-seven feet long by fifty-five feet wide. The new institution will be under the direction of the school of medicine. It will combine the work of the department of pathology of the school with the pathology of the university hospitals, focusing the whole in one spot and under Dr. Howard T.

Karsner, professor of pathology at the school of medicine, who will head the institute.

GENERAL KALEVRAS, the governor-general of Greek Macedonia, on October 15 opened the new University of Salonika, of which Professor Sotiriades is the rector.

THE *Proceedings* of the Washington Academy of Sciences announce that Kirk Bryan and G. M. Hall, of the water resources branch of the U. S. Geological Survey, have left Washington to assume their new duties on the teaching staffs, respectively, of Harvard University and the University of Tennessee.

NORMAN W. KRASE, formerly of the department of chemistry at Yale University, has been appointed assistant professor in the department of applied chemistry at the University of Illinois.

AT the Harvard Medical School, Dr. William Carter Quinby has been promoted to be a clinical professor of genito-urinary surgery, and Dr. Karl M. Bowen to be assistant professor of psychiatry.

SIR THOMAS OLIVER has been elected to succeed Sir David Drummond as president of the University College of Medicine at Newcastle. Sir David Drummond has been a member of the council of the college for forty-seven years, and became president in 1918.

DR. G. VON HEVESY, professor of physical chemistry at the University of Freiburg, has been invited to succeed Professor Bodenstein in the chair of physical chemistry at the Technische Hochschule at Hannover.

DR. EGON SCHWEIDLER, professor of physics at the University of Innsbruck, has been called to the chair of physics at the University of Vienna.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

WHAT IS "METAPHASE"?

THIS question has been rather pointedly brought to the attention of the writer by the discovery of the fact that until recently Rutgers students were learning one definition of the term "metaphase" down-stairs (in the zoological laboratories) and another definition up-stairs (in the botanical laboratories). A survey of over a dozen text-books of botany and of zoology shows that such diversity is bound to occur, for the term has been variously defined by different writers, and even by the same writer at different times. The chief divergence is between the view that metaphase refers essentially to the stage during which the chromosomes split, and the view that metaphase is equivalent to the equatorial plate stage. It is a matter of