SIDNEY MYER has offered Melbourne University a gift of 25,000 shares in the Myer emporium, the present value of which is nearly £50,000. Mr. Myer has asked the university to hold the shares until their value is at least £100,000.

LOUIS ORRIN HOWARD, professor of mining and metallurgy and dean of the school of mines and geology at the State College of Washington, has been appointed head of the department of metallurgy in the South Dakota School of Mines in the absence of Professor Bancroft Gore, who is on leave of absence doing professional work for the Argentine government.

DR. K. W. LAMSON, of Columbia University, has been appointed assistant professor of mathematics at Lehigh University.

DR. SMILEY BLANTON, director of the Child Guidance Clinic of Minneapolis, has been appointed the first professor of child study at Vassar College.

DR. ERNEST PRIBRAM has been appointed assistant professor of pathology in Rush Medical College of the University of Chicago.

DR. JULIAN S. HUXLEY, professor of zoology and animal biology at King's College, University of London, has been appointed Fullerian professor of physiology at the Royal Institution, London.

DR. NORBERT KREBS, professor of geography at the University of Freiburg, has been invited to Berlin to take the place of Professor A. Penck, who has been made emeritus professor.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

WHAT DID DARWIN WRITE?

As found in "The Descent of Man," C. Darwin, second edition (Appleton and Company, 1925):

> The Simiadae then branched off into two great stems, the New World and Old World monkeys; and from the latter, at a remote period, Man, the wonder and glory of the Universe, proceeded (p. 168).

As stated in "Evolution and Religion in Education," H. F. Osborn (Scribners, 1926):

> Entirely apart from this human family is the Simiidae (Latin simia, ape), including the living and extinct anthropoid apes—the gorilla, the chimpanzee, the orang, the gibbon. These animals constitute a separate branch of the great division of primates not only inferior to the Hominidae, but totally disconnected from the human family from its earliest history (p. 136).

All this despite the fact that Darwin himself, in the days when not a single bit of evidence regarding the fossil ancestors of man was recognized, distinctly stated that none of the known anthropoid apes, much less any of the known monkeys, should be considered as in any way ancestral to the human stock (p. 140).

> Thus the entire monkey-ape theory of human descent, which Bryan and his followers are attacking, is a pure fiction, set up as a scarecrow, which has been entirely set aside by modern anatomical research (p. 142).

Let us be honest. Darwin distinctly stated, rightly or wrongly, that man proceeded from Simiadae, which in ancient days branched off into two stems, "the New World and Old World monkeys; and from the latter, at a remote period, Man, the wonder and glory of the Universe, proceeded."

Hence Bryan was not attacking a pure fiction, nor setting up scarecrows. He was attacking what Darwin actually wrote. Most men of science still believe that man proceeded from a pre-ape or pre-monkey stock or from some animals that were not men. The particular brand of animal is not so important as the type of origin, and it is important that this truth, if it be such, should be fairly and clearly stated.

Man is a mammal and is believed as such to have evolved from the reptiles. Ape or reptile, what does it matter? He is what he is.

A. S. EVE

PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

IN an article entitled "A Suggested Course in Plant Physiology," by H. C. Hampton and S. M. Gordon,[1] a criticism is given which is accurate and timely.

It is hardly necessary to emphasize the fact that most students who major in plant physiology have been inadequately prepared in mathematics, physics and chemistry. I should like to carry the idea still further and say that the same criticism is appropriate not only to plant physiologists but to the majority of those concentrating in any phase of biology.

The reasons for inadequate preparation by the student for plant physiology or for biology in general are perhaps many, but there are two reasons which seem to me especially significant:

First, the general lack of an appreciation that there might be a more logical and necessary sequence of courses in colleges and universities than exists at present. This failure to recognize a more necessary sequence in preparation for a special field of concentration is outstanding enough to merit more consideration. Second, the recent discoveries in the field of physics and chemistry have enhanced the values of these sciences as basic studies not only for biology but for an

[1] SCIENCE LXIV, number 1661, pp. 417–419, 1926.