A NEW OUTDOOR SUMMER SCHOOL OF NATURAL HISTORY FOR NEW YORK STATE

MR. CHAUNCEY J. HAMLIN, president of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, and Dr. Charles C. Adams, director of the New York State Museum, have announced the establishment of a new school for the study of outdoor natural history in the Allegany State Park, about 75 miles south of Buffalo. This field school is to be located in the woods of the Allegany plateau, near the Allegany River, south of Salamanca, N. Y., where the cool summer climate is similar to that of the Adirondacks. This school-camp will be conducted during July and August.

The primary aim of the outdoor school is to supplement ordinary school work and give practical field instruction to teachers of the public schools, leaders of all kinds of young peoples' organizations interested in outdoor life such as scouts and woodcrafters—an outdoor natural history camp experience and training, of a kind that they can not obtain in cities. This work will include a first-hand knowledge of the geography, physical geography and geology of this region, which lies just beyond the margin of the glaciated region, as well as the flowers, shrubs, trees and all kinds of animals found in the region. The instruction will consist largely of field excursions under experienced leaders. Methods of collecting and preserving specimens will be given special attention. Students will be aided in their studies also by a specially prepared series of pocket guidebooks to the natural history of the region. Dr. A. K. Lobeck has prepared a guide of the physical features of the region, Dr. H. D. House and W. P. Alexander a similar guide for the study of the plants, and Dr. S. C. Bishop and W. P. Alexander a guide to the study of the reptiles and amphibians of the region. A guide to the birds by A. A. Saunders has already been prepared by the Roosevelt Wild Life Station at Syracuse. The needs of the commissioner of the Allegany State Park, who are cooperating in this project, are being recognized by giving special instruction for persons who desire to train themselves for work in parks. The training of museum workers also requires a similar experience, so that the present plan provides assistance not only for the public schools, and outdoor leadership, but as well for the museums and the parks.

The project has the approval of the Board of Regents, the officials of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, and the commissioners of the Allegany State Park. The general educational supervision is furnished by Dr. Charles C. Adams, director of the State Museum.

A RESEARCH PROFESSORSHIP IN FOREST SOILS AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

A GIFT of $130,000 for the endowment of a research professorship in forest soils in Cornell University has been announced by President Livingston Farrand, who said that the Charles Lathrop Pack Forestry Trust, founded by Mr. Charles Lathrop Pack, president of the American Tree Association, in addition to endowing the chair, had made a further provision of funds for the operating expenses of the advanced line of investigation to be undertaken.

The work will be done in the New York State College of Agriculture, and the appointment of the professor will soon be announced. The chair will be named for Mr. Pack, who is already well known for his benefactions to scientific forestry as president of the American Tree Association and as the founder of the Charles Lathrop Pack Forestry Trust. This trust is administered by his son, Arthur Newton Pack.

President Farrand made the following statement on the importance of the gift:

> In the northeastern hard-wood area, extending over the Middle Atlantic States and as far west as Indiana and Illinois, the question of proper forest care and operation depends very largely upon a study of soil conditions, and practically no data on forest soils are at present available. The proposed line of investigation is a new development in forest research in this country. It will undertake to coordinate studies in several fields of science and apply what is learned to the special soil problems involved in the business of growing healthy forests.
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> This research will necessarily deal with the chemistry and biology of soils. It will naturally have intimate relation with the field of heredity in tree growth, particularly as it should help to solve problems of adapting certain varieties of trees to given soils. And it will similarly have a bearing on the field of plant pathology, because of the relation that soil conditions bear to diseases of trees. Many of the timber growers' problems are complex. Their solution must be looked for in several fields, including these interrelated fields of soils, genetics and forest pathology.
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> This is the first time that such a comprehensive research on forest soils has been systematically undertaken in this country. The comprehensive study of forest soils is a new line of research everywhere, and the only specialized workers in it are a few scientists in Sweden, Russia, Finland and Germany. While the work to be done under Mr. Pack's endowment will deal directly with American forest problems, its results will have international interest and general scientific value.

Mr. Pack has made other large gifts for the promotion and support of education in forestry. Recently announcement was made concerning the Charles Lathrop Pack demonstration forest, a twenty-five hundred acre tract of white-pine land on the main Adirondack highway near Lake George; and he has given

land or endowments to other American forestry schools, including the New York State College of Forestry, the Yale Forest School and the University of Washington.

AWARDS OF THE PERKIN MEDAL

ON January 14, at a meeting of the American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry, the Perkin Medal was presented to John E. Teeple, consulting engineer, 50 East 41st St., New York City, for "significant scientific, technical and administrative achievements, particularly the economic development of an American potassium industry at Searles Lake, California."

The medal was presented by William H. Nichols, following introductory remarks by L. V. Redman, an account of the early days of the medalist by L. M. Dennis, and a summary of the accomplishments of Dr. Teeple by Charles H. Herty.

The Perkin Medal is awarded "annually to the American chemist who has most distinguished himself by his services to applied chemistry." It was founded in 1906 at the time of the Perkin semicentennial celebration of the coal-tar discoveries, the first medal being awarded to Sir William H. Perkin himself. *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* prints a list of previous Perkin medalists as follows:

Date of award	Awarded to	Principal fields of inventions
1907	Sir W. H. Perkin	Discovery of first aniline color
1908	J. B. F. Herreshoff	Metallurgy; contact sulfuric acid
1909	Arno Behr	Corn products industry
1910	E. G. Acheson	Carborundum; artificial graphite
1911	Charles M. Hall	Metallic aluminum
1912	Herman Frasch	Desulfuring oil and subterranean sulfur industry
1913	James Gayley	Dry air blast
1914	John W. Hyatt	Colloids and flexible roller bearings
1915	Edward Weston	Electrical measurements; electrodeposition of metals; flaming arc
1916	L. H. Baekeland	Velox photoprint paper; Bakelite and synthetic resins; caustic soda industry
1917	Ernst Twitchell	Saponification of fats
1918	Auguste J. Rossi	Development of manufacture and use of ferrotitanium
1919	Frederick G. Cottrell	Electrical precipitation
1920	Charles F. Chandler	Noteworthy achievements in almost every line of chemical endeavor
1921	Willis R. Whitney	Development of research and application of science to industry
1922	William M. Burton	Achievement in oil industry; efficient conversion of high-boiling fractions into low-boiling fractions
1923	Milton C. Whitaker	Great constructive work in field of applied chemistry
1924	Frederick M. Becket	Process for extraction of rare metals from ores; manufacture of calcium carbide; processes for reduction of rare metals and alloys
1925	Hugh K. Moore	Electrochemical processes for caustic soda, soda and chlorine, production of wood pulp, hydrogenation of oils, etc.
1926	R. B. Moore	Work on radium, mesothorium and helium

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. FRANK SCHLESINGER, director of the Yale University Observatory, to whom the Royal Astronomical Society has awarded its gold medal, sailed from New York for London on February 12 to deliver the first George Darwin lecture under the auspices of the Royal Astronomical Society. This lectureship was recently founded by Dr. J. H. Jeans, secretary of the Royal Society, and formerly professor of physics at Princeton University.

DR. RICHARD WILLSTÄTTER, formerly professor of chemistry in the University of Munich, who, as previously recorded, will soon visit the United States, will give a series of lectures under the Edward K. Dunham lectureship at the Harvard Medical School, beginning on March 22.

PAUL G. REDINGTON, assistant chief of the Forest Service, has been appointed chief of the Biological Survey, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the appointment to become effective next May, to succeed Dr. E. W. Nelson, who has asked to be relieved of his executive duties. Dr. Nelson will remain in the survey as senior biologist.

THE Geological Society of London has announced the following awards: The Wollaston medal to Professor W. W. Watts; the Murchison medal to Dr. G. T. Prior, keeper of the department of mineralogy in the British Museum; the Lyell medal to Sir Albert Ernest Kitson, director of the Geological Survey of the Gold Coast; the Bigsby medal to Dr. Bernard C. Smith, of the Geological Survey; the Wollaston fund to Miss M. E. J. Chandler; the Murchison fund to Dr. S. H. Haughton, of the Geological Survey of South Africa; one half the Lyell fund to Dr. Leonard Hawkes, reader in geology at Bedford College, London, and the other half of the Lyell fund to Miss Edith Goodyear, senior assistant in the geological department of University College, London.

DR. HIDEYO NOGUCHI, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, has been elected an associate member of the French Society of Biology.