DR. MABEL M. BROWN, assistant professor of botany in the University of New Hampshire, died on September 16.

HENRY RICHARDSON PROCTER, professor at the University of Leeds and later honorary director of the research laboratory for the leather industry established in that university, died on August 17 at the age of seventy-nine years.

PROFESSOR C. PULLFRICH, of the Zeiss Optical Works at Jena, known for his investigations in optics, has died at the age of sixty-nine years.

As has been noted in SCIENCE, the fall meeting of the National Academy of Sciences will be held at Urbana, Illinois, at the University of Illinois, beginning on Tuesday, October 18. This is a departure from the usual custom of holding the meeting in November and beginning on Monday. Dr. A. L. Day, of the Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution, will give an illustrated evening lecture on October 18 on "The Volcano Problem." The executive committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science is to hold its October meeting in Urbana on October 16. The state geologists of the country are to assemble in Urbana on October 20 for a three days' field trip under the direction of the geologists of Illinois.

THE fifty-sixth annual meeting of the American Public Health Association will be held, under the presidency of Dr. Charles V. Chapin, at Hotel Gibson, Cincinnati, Ohio, from October 17 to 21.

THE American Society of Tropical Medicine will hold its twenty-third annual meeting in Boston, from October 21 to 22, under the presidency of Dr. George C. Shattuck, assistant professor of tropical medicine, Harvard University Medical School, Boston.

THE twenty-first annual convention of the Illuminating Engineering Society will be held in the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, from the eleventh to the fourteenth of October.

THE fourteenth annual meeting of the New England Section of the American Society of Agronomy will be held at Boston on December 2 and 3. Symposia on "Land Utilization Programs and Fertilizer Requirements of Specific Crops" will be held.

THE U. S. Civil Service Commission announces an examination for the position of technical editor for vacancies in the forest service at Washington and at the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wis. The entrance salary is \$3,800 a year.

THE Journal of the American Medical Association states that the state department has advised the U. S. Public Health Service that the Egyptian legation in Washington desires brought to the attention of qualified American citizens the fact that the Egyptian government wants to employ a foreign specialist in medical entomology in the ancylostoma and bilharzia research section of the public health laboratories of the Egyptian government.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

THE General Assembly of Georgia just adjourned appropriated \$1,000,000 per year for each of the years 1928 and 1929 to be used to equalize educational opportunities. This revenue is to be derived from a one half cent tax on each gallon of gasoline and a tax of one cent on each gallon of kerosene. If the revenue from these two taxes does not yield a million dollars the balance will be supplied out of the general treasury. All revenue from these two taxes will be used as an equalization fund, even though it should exceed one million dollars.

ISAAC E. EMERSON, chairman of the board of the Emerson Drug Company, has given two fellowships to the University of Maryland. One is for a professorship in biological testing yielding \$4,000 annually; the other, yielding \$1,500, is to maintain a fellow in pharmacology in the School of Medicine.

SIR EDWARD BROTHERTON, the chemical manufacturer, of Leeds, who has works in Leeds, Liverpool and other parts of the country, has made a gift of $\pounds 100,000$ for a new library for Leeds University.

DR. S. W. RANSON, professor of neuroanatomy at Washington University, St. Louis, has been appointed professor of neurology and director of a Neurological Research Institute at Northwestern University Medical School. Quarters for the new institute have been provided in the Ward Memorial Building, which was erected last year on the McKinlock campus. The institute will be devoted entirely to research and will conduct investigations in the anatomy, physiology and pathology of the nervous system and in clinical neurology and neurosurgery. Dr. Lewis J. Pollock, professor of neurology, and Dr. Loyal E. Davis, associate professor of surgery, will cooperate with Dr. An assistant professor of neuropathology Ranson. and an assistant professor of anatomical neurology as well as younger men with training in physiology and biochemistry will be appointed. Problems connected with the innervation and nervous control of the skeletal muscles will be among the first with which the institute will deal.

DR. J. C. HUBBARD, head of the department of physics at New York University, has been appointed professor of physics at the Johns Hopkins University. DR. WILLIAM MANSFIELD CLARK, PH.D., of the Hygienic Laboratory of the U. S. Public Health Service, Washington, has accepted the position of professor of physiological chemistry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

QUENTIN D. SINGEWALD, Ph.D. (Johns Hopkins, '26), has been appointed to an assistant professorship of petrography in the Colorado School of Mines, at Golden.

DR. PETER DEBYE, professor of physics in the Technical School of Zurich, has accepted a call to the University of Leipzig, where he will succeed Professor Otto Wiener.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

AN ECHO FROM MORRISON CHAPEL, TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY

THE description of the echoes from the Lincoln Memorial by C. A. Browne in SCIENCE, July 29, 1927, calls to mind an interesting echo produced by Morrison Chapel of Transylvania University. The sound comes from the bell of the Court House clock, several blocks away. The echo was first noticed one evening several weeks ago when the writer was sitting in a



park adjacent to Transylvania campus. It so happened that the position taken was such that the echo gave the impression of the clock striking twice as rapidly as usual, and, of course, a double number of strokes. The echo seemed slightly higher pitched than the clock bell. This first position is indicated as point A. Subsequent observations from various points in the park and campus are as follows: From points B, C and D the echo follows the bell so closely as to sound like a double stroke rather than a double number of strokes, and at E and F the echo was not heard.

WILLIAM A. ANDERSON, JR.

KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, LEXINGTON

ICARUS AND MELTING WAX

IN Professor Eddington's fascinating book "The Internal Constitution of the Stars," we are given the privilege of watching the "hurly-burly of atoms, electrons and ether-waves" in stellar interiors. Our astronomer pictures the commotion prevailing in these tremendous gas-houses, as atoms go whizzing by, now and then shedding an electron and anon grabbing some stray one, the whole result of the bustle being the emission of ether-waves. No humble earthworm can say aught to the contrary; but he may balk in following the astronomer in flights through the earth's atmosphere.

"In ancient days," he says, "two aviators procured to themselves wings. Daedalus flew safely through the middle air and was duly honored on landing. Icarus soared upward to the sun till the wax melted which bound his wings and his flight ended in flasco. ... The classical authorities tell us that he was only doing a stunt, but I prefer to think of him as the man who brought to light a serious constructional defect in the flying machines of his day."

These pioneer airmen were father and son. And the question naturally arises "Was not father in equally great danger?" His wax attachments were exposed to the full radiation from the earth. Icarus, poor boy, flying higher and higher had to go through the troposphere. And as he rose from earth it got colder and colder. Even in a genial clime on a midsummer day, by the time he was five miles high, he would have been frozen stiff. With a temperature of -40° C. the very mercury in his thermometer would have solidified. If he lived to reach the stratosphere he still had to fly a hundred miles in cold storage!

And why decry old Daedalus? If it was necessary to find the melting-point of wax, the experiment could have been carried on just as well down below.

My good friend Dr. W. W. Campbell used to say "This would be a happy world for astronomers if only there were no atmosphere!"

BLUE HILL OBSERVATORY

ALEXANDER MCADIE

HORTUS GRAMINEUS WOBURNENSIS

THE undersigned would like to be advised of the location of an 1816 edition of George Sinclair's Hortus Gramineus Woburnensis. The copy in the Library of the United States Department of Agriculture gives on page 108 a description of *Trifolium medium*, a red perennial clover, and the author states that to avoid any chance of mistake he presents a specimen of