

cases reported in 1924. In the course of the survey, these investigators visited Dyersburg and vicinity, Tenn.; Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Marked Tree and vicinities, Ark.; Jackson, Greenwood and Indianola, Miss.; and New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Alexandria and Monroe in Louisiana. Conferences were held with state and local health officials, some of whom do not seem to have definite information concerning the pellagra situation. The information obtained was therefore of a very general character with regard to some communities, and in at least one community, very definite. The authorities are satisfied that in the places visited the incidence of pellagra is abnormally high.

THE Associated Press reported on August 23 that intense activity of Bogoslof island, a volcano peak in the Western Aleutian islands, which rose from the sea May 18, 1796, was reported by Henning Plaun, Danish consul in Seattle, recently, after completing a trading trip to Ust, Siberia. He said the volcano appeared as though it would explode like a giant fire-cracker. "We went within three miles of the island," Plaun said. "The entire island seemed afire. Smoke and steam was issuing from every part of the island, and many huge cracks could be seen. Hundreds of sea-lions were in the water off the island roaring as if in protest to the burning of their home. We could hear their roaring for six miles." Thousands of birds swarmed about the island. The water was discolored and a strong smell of sulphur was in the air. Cable advices from Dutch Harbor, Alaska, last month reported that Dr. T. A. Jaggar, volcanologist from Hawaii, making an investigation for the United States Geological Survey, saw twenty large volcanoes in action in the Western Aleutian islands. Dr. Jaggar at that time expressed the opinion a new spell of intense activity resembling the eruptions of 1906 was in progress. Both Bogoslof and Fire island, which arose nearby in 1883, have spasmodically erupted, being joined and separated several times by the rising and lowering of the bottom of the sea.

THE Société des Amis de l'Université de Paris, at its last general assembly, under the chairmanship of M. Raymond Poincaré, decided to donate considerable sums to various laboratories. M. Paul Appell, honorary rector of the Académie de Paris, whose fiftieth anniversary as a scientific worker was recently celebrated, presented a gift for the purchase of books for the students' study hall. Several other gifts were made for special purposes. M. David Weil gave \$4,000 to be applied to the cost of printing theses presented by candidates for the doctor's degree at the Faculté des sciences and the Faculté des lettres. This donation is important because some students are

unable to complete their graduation requirements because of the high cost of printing. The funds furnished for this purpose by the Institute de France, the central government and Madame la Marquise Arconati Visconti have been exhausted.

A CHEMICAL exposition will be held at Turin under the auspices of and supported by the Italian Government. The exposition will last six months and will be confined to the national industry in the case of chemical products, but will be international as regards machinery and apparatus for the chemical industry, the following types of which are to be exhibited: (a) Pulverization and mixing, sieving, heating ovens and industrial processes, filtering, evaporating, distillation, crystallization, sublimation, centrifugal machines, suction plants, compressors, vacuums lignification of gas, compressed gases, drums, etc. (b) Combustion gassification. (c) Containers. (d) Refrigerators, ice machines and refrigerating machinery of all kinds.

THE Danish Arctic explorer, Dr. Lange Koch, accompanied by the Cambridge geologist, Mr. Harris, and the Danish geologist, M. Rosenkrantz, have returned to Copenhagen on board the *Gustav Holm* from Scoresby Sound, the base for the scientific expedition which went to East Greenland in 1926. After an autumn reconnoitering trip as far as Mackenzie Bay, Dr. Koch, with three Eskimos, left on February 22 on a sledge journey with dogs of over 1,550 miles to Denmark Harbor. The journey was extremely difficult owing to heavy snow. The party reached Denmark Harbour on April 8, starting back the same day. Mr. Harris and M. Rosenkrantz, who had remained at Scoresby Sound, collected eight tons of fossils, the largest Arctic collection ever brought home. Mr. Harris collected fossilized palms from Greenland's tropical period and M. Rosenkrantz especially animal fossils, including a particularly beautiful ammonite, a yard in diameter. They also found large quantities of coal in easily workable layers, but no precious metals. In the neighborhood of Scoresby Sound many active hot springs and inactive volcanoes of about the same age as those of Iceland were discovered.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

It is announced that Trinity College, Connecticut, will construct a new laboratory for chemistry, at a cost of \$350,000, as soon as plans for the building can be prepared.

An engineering laboratory, to cost about \$100,000, in addition to equipment, will be erected at Haverford

College during the next college year as a memorial to T. Allen Hilles, of Wilmington, Del., a graduate of the class of 1870.

A CHECK for \$50,000, the gift of Cyrus H. K. Curtis, of Philadelphia, to Milwaukee-Downer College has been presented to the board of trustees to be used for the equipment of the science building now under construction.

DR. HENRY SPENCER HOUGHTON has been appointed dean of the Medical School of the Iowa State University.

DR. FREDERICK H. HOWARD, professor of physiology at Williams College, has been appointed professor of physiology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

At the University of California, E. O. Essig has been appointed professor of entomology and entomologist of the Agricultural Experiment Station. Dr. Edwin C. Van Dyke has been appointed professor of entomology.

DR. MATILDA MOLDENHAUER BROOKS, formerly associate biologist of the Hygienic Laboratory at Washington, D. C., has been appointed research associate in biology at the University of California.

DR. THEODORE KOPPANYI, of the department of physiology of the University of Chicago, has been appointed assistant professor of pharmacology in the college of medicine at Syracuse University.

PROMOTIONS in the department of chemistry of the University of Pittsburgh have been made as follows: Drs. H. E. Woodward, F. Y. Herron and J. N. Roche, from graduate assistant to instructor; in the department of physics, Dr. Oswald Blackwood, from associate professor to professor, and Dr. Elmer Hutchisson, from instructor to assistant professor; in the department of botany, Dr. A. B. Wallgren, from assistant professor to associate professor.

THE vacancy in the electrical engineering faculty of Case School of Applied Science, created by the death of Dr. Huxley, will be filled by Dr. P. L. Hoover, research fellow in electrical engineering at Harvard University, who has been appointed assistant professor of electrical engineering.

PROMOTIONS at Yale University include the following: Dr. Edwin H. Lockwood, Robert Higgin professor of mechanical engineering; Dr. James D. Trask, associate professor of pediatrics; Dr. Willard B. Soper, associate clinical professor of medicine; Dr. Edwin J. Fisher, assistant professor of chemistry; Dr. Sidney M. Newhall, assistant professor of psychology, and Dr. Albert F. Hill, assistant professor of botany.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE INFLUENCE OF ADRENAL EXTRACTS ON THE SURVIVAL PERIOD OF ADRENALECTOMIZED DOGS¹

UNTIL it has been shown that any adrenal extracts whatever possess the power of definitely increasing the period of survival after removal of the adrenals, the assumption that the cortex produces a "hormone" (which might appropriately be termed interrenalin) must lack a foundation, and attempts to isolate and purify such a body can hardly be made with confidence. We have used extracts, made from dog's fresh adrenals with 0.9 per cent. salt solution and glycerine. The clear extracts were injected intravenously on alternate days. The injections produced no obvious ill effects.

The only criterion at present at our disposal to determine the efficacy of an extract is its effect on the survival period. This is a very severe test because of the fact that all the important derangements which eventually lead to death must be neutralized by the substance. If changes not of themselves causing death could be associated with the loss of the adrenals, it might be easier to obtain evidence of the existence in extracts of a body or bodies capable of preventing them.

It is obvious that in drawing conclusions as to the effect of any method of treatment upon the period of survival, it is essential to have a sufficiently large number of "control" animals. We have accumulated more than a hundred control dogs, so that it may be said with confidence that we know the limits of the survival period in dogs doubly adrenalectomized and not subjected to any treatment. Of course, this series of control animals is necessary and available for many other researches. The majority of the animals lived about a week to 10 days, a good many less than a week. About 8 per cent. survived a fortnight or somewhat longer. The longest survival period was 16¼ days (one dog).

Among about 30 dogs treated with extracts, one lived into the 18th day, one into the 20th day, one into the 22nd day, one into the 23rd day, one into the 28th day, and one survived 78 days after removal of the second adrenal. Nothing like those results were seen among the much larger number of control dogs. It is impossible to draw any other conclusion than that the extracts in some way prolonged the life of the animals in the absence of the adrenals. The rest of the treated animals compared favorably with the controls as regards duration of survival. As the extracts injected into the different animals were often obtained from different adrenals, it is easily understood that their potency would vary.

¹ From the H. K. Cushing Laboratory of Experimental Medicine, Western Reserve University.