CASH prizes totalling $6,000 are being offered to freshmen in American colleges for essays on subjects related to chemistry by the American Chemical Society, with the endorsement of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Garvan, of New York City. The essays must be on the relation of chemistry to health and disease, to the enrichment of life, to agriculture or forestry, to national defense, to the home or to the development of an industry. A contestant may submit only one essay and this must not exceed 2,500 words in length. The essays must be handed in to the Secretary, Committee on Prize Essays, American Chemical Society, 85 Beaver Street, New York City, before March 1, 1928.

THE first exhibition of material collected by the recently returned John Borden-Field Museum Expedition to Alaska is now open to the public at Field Museum of Natural History. The exhibit consists of a wide variety of ethnological specimens representative of the life of the Eskimos of Alaska and northern Canada, and illustrates their fine craftsmanship, artistic skill and practical ingenuity. The exhibit is a selection from a total of 533 pieces brought by the Borden party. Other material, consisting of bows and arrows, snowshoes, stone cooking vessels, lamps, fishing equipment, etc., will be used later in reinstalling the entire Eskimo collections of the museum.

THE production of fur-bearing animals in Alaska is to be studied under a cooperative agreement recently made between Governor George A. Parks, of Alaska, and the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey. Dr. Earl Graves, veterinarian, has been selected to conduct the study. He will go into the problems incident to the production of fur for commercial purposes and advise fur farmers of Alaska in matters pertaining to the breeding and care of fur-bearing animals and the prevention and cure of diseases among them. The study will be carried on in cooperation with the Alaska Game Commission, the United States Forest Service, fur farmers' organizations and other agencies. The sum of $15,000 has been appropriated by the Territory for expenditure in the project in 1927 and 1928, in addition to funds that may be allotted by the Biological Survey from its regular appropriations.

As part of the plan to put all available data of interest to engineers into a convenient published form for use in connection with various engineering projects, the magnetic declinations in each state are being published by the United States Coast and Geodetic survey, according to an oral statement made to a representative of the *United States Daily*, by the editor, Roy Griffith. The publications will appear by states. The volumes for Arkansas, Florida, Missouri and North Carolina are already available, and those for California and Nevada are now in the press. These volumes give the variations of the magnetic needle from the true north and enable local surveyors to correct their compass readings according to the latest scientific findings. Descriptions and elevations of tidal bench marks in coastal states are also being published. Separate volumes for New York, Rhode Island and the District of Columbia have been printed and the tables for Connecticut are in the press. These books give the elevations above sea level necessary in such work as harbor construction and city planning.

A TRACT of thirty-nine acres of spruce-covered land on the westerly side of Watatic Mountain in Ashburnham, Mass., recently bought by the Associated Committees for Wild Life Conservation, has been formally turned over to the Commonwealth as a gift from the committees, to be used as a wild life sanctuary for all time. It adjoins the land which was given to the state by the Federation of Bird Clubs of New England. Announcing receipt of the land the State Division of Fisheries and Game says: "These gifts further emphasize the splendid work which the federation and the allied committees have done in bringing about the establishment of wild life sanctuaries. To the thinking conservationists of the country it has been apparent for some years that our only hope to maintain a permanent and sufficient stock of desirable forms of wild life is through the establishment of such permanent sanctuaries."

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE has received from Mr. John Markle, of New York, $500,000 for the construction and endowment of a building for the engineering department.

GROUND was broken for the new building of the Neurological Institute on October 19, adding another unit to the Columbia University medical center being constructed at 168th Street, New York.

THE cornerstone of the Mines Building of the University of Utah will be laid early this month. The building, costing $50,000, will be used exclusively by the research department of the mining division of the university and by the intermountain station of the United States Bureau of Mines.

AT the Armour Institute of Technology, Professor Donald F. Campbell has resigned and Associate Professor C. I. Palmer has been promoted to a full professorship of mathematics. Professor Palmer is also acting dean of students.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS J. H. KINDLE and Edward S.

Smith have been promoted to professorships of mathematics at the University of Cincinnati.

NEW appointments have been made to the medical staff of Dalhousie University as follows: Dr. R. P. Smith, of Edinburgh and Durham, has been appointed professor of pathology and bacteriology and fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. A. G. Nichols; Dr. G. S. Eadie, of Toronto, who has spent the past two years at the biochemical institute of Cambridge University, has been appointed assistant professor of physiology; Dr. Elizabeth Smith Bean, formerly of the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed instructor in histology and embryology. Dr. Howard A. Jamison, of Glasgow, comes to the university as assistant in pathology and bacteriology, and G. A. Grant fills a similar position in the department of biochemistry.

HAROLD B. PIERCE has resigned as Fleischmann research fellow at the University of Rochester and has again assumed his duties as associate professor of dairy and food chemistry in the department of agricultural and biological chemistry at the Pennsylvania State College.

DR. PERRY YATES JACKSON, instructor in physiological chemistry at the University of Chicago, has been elected to a professorship in the department of chemistry at Park College, Mo.

DR. WILLEM JACOB LUYTEN, astronomer at the Harvard College Observatory, has been promoted to assistant professor of astronomy.

NEW appointments in the college of engineering and architecture at the University of Minnesota include C. A. Hughes and J. A. Wise, assistant professors of structural engineering. Mr. Hughes comes from the University of Toronto and Mr. Wise from the Corps of Civil Engineers of the U. S. Navy.

AT Lafayette College, Ernest M. Fernald, of Cornell University, has been appointed assistant professor of mechanical engineering and Anson W. Voorhees, assistant professor of geology.

AT the University of Buffalo, Dr. George Claude Hicks has been appointed assistant professor of biology; George E. Read, instructor in physics, and Dr. Reginald Pegrum, instructor in geology.

DR. M. A. GRAHAM, associate professor of chemistry at Mills College, has been appointed professor of chemistry at the Dominican College of San Rafael.

DR. PAUL A. MURPHY, formerly head of the plant diseases division, Department of Agriculture, Irish Free State, has been appointed to the newly created professorship of plant pathology in University College, Dublin.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

EXIT THE TENTAMEN, BUT . . .

DR. HOLLAND in his recent letter to SCIENCE (July 1) has noted the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature that that two-page work was not published, but was intended as a circular letter. He does not mention, however, that the *names* involved are not thereby eliminated, but are merely thrown back on later publications, and is entirely silent on the extraordinary confusion that will result from the fact that these later concededly valid uses are in general incidental, rarely naming a type or indicating the intended contents of the genera, or in any way defining them save by citing some one or more species as belonging to them.

For instance, take Limnas, which Dr. Holland mentions. In 1806 it appears in the Tentamen with the well-known species *chrysippus* (Linnaeus). Then in the period 1806–1816, but at dates that are not more exactly known, Hübner figures 16 species of Limnas in the "Sammlung Exotischer Schmetterlinge," thereby firmly fixing the name in a work that every one agrees is published. Incidentally a prospectus in our library shows that 15 Limnas were published in March, 1814. After that he abandons the name, and bases his binary nomenclature (which now becomes strictly binomial) on a series of "coitus" names, from the "Verzeichniss," which began to be published at that time. Later Boisduval on a plate of the Buffon Series, figures a *Limnas pixe,* belonging to a group which is not related to *chrysippus* L., but which *is* related to forms which Hübner excludes from Limnas. The corresponding text was never published. Then the question rises: Is the type of Limnas the first species published in the "Sammlung," which is now unknown, but may be fixed any time by the discovery of a new dated advertisement of the "Sammlung"? or does the ghost of the "Tentamen" fix it to *chrysippus* as soon as valid publication occurs? or does it become *pixe,* a species which Hübner did not know? or do we reject all this, and hunt for the first attempt at a *formal* founding of the name, all these uses being in a sense incidental and assuming that the Tentamen had established the name? or finally do we adopt the name from Hübner's "Systematisch-Alphabetisch Verzeichniss" of 1822, which every one admits was published, but which so far as I can find no one in America has seen? And in the last case does the name actually appear there? Some one in Europe who has a copy will have to answer that. Meanwhile what shall we do with the Danaids of the *chrysippus* group and the Erycinids of the *pixe* group?

Again, take Coleophora, which was in universal use for the best part of a century, and which is still in