mittee at Milan is considering the cost of the project. The Royal Italian Geographical Society has promised its support.

THE U. S. National Museum recently received as a gift the collection of insects belonging to Geo. M. Greene, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Mr. Greene began to form this collection in 1893 and devoted himself principally to Coleoptera, although his collection contains several thousand named and arranged specimens in other orders. The collection is of unusual value because the specimens are neatly and completely labeled, well mounted and thoroughly classified. The beetles alone number over 42,000 specimens. H. S. Barber and C. T. Greene, of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology, made a trip by automobile to Philadelphia on October 21 and 22, to bring the Geo. M. Greene collection to the museum.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

UNDER the will of Frank Thorne Patterson, of Philadelphia, his estate, after the death of his widow, is to be divided between Jefferson Medical College, the hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Museum and the School of Industrial Art and Bryn Mawr Hospital. The value of the estate is estimated at approximately $2,120,000.

THE late Nina Lea, of Philadelphia, has bequeathed to the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University $150,000 each, to endow professorships in memory of her father, Henry Charles Lea, well-known historian.

DR. A. F. O. GERMANN has been granted a leave of absence from Valparaiso University, to return to his former position of research director for the Laboratory Products Company, Cleveland. Harry V. Fuller, formerly professor of chemistry at Pei Yang University, China, has accepted the position of acting professor of chemistry at Valparaiso University in Professor Germann's absence.

DR. GORDON WHYBURN has been promoted to a full professorship of mathematics at the University of Texas.

BRENTON R. LUTZ, of the department of biology at Boston University, has been promoted from assistant professor to professor in the department.

DR. ELMER L. SEVRINGHAUS has been transferred from associate professor of physiological chemistry to associate professor of medicine and associate physician to the Wisconsin General Hospital, Madison, and Dr. Edgar J. Witzemann, formerly of the Mayo Clinic, has been appointed assistant professor of physiological chemistry, to succeed Dr. Sevringhaus.

DR. LESLIE HELLERMAN, who has been research instructor at the University of Chicago, has received an appointment in the department of physiological chemistry of the Johns Hopkins University Medical School as associate.

MISS MINNIE A. GRAHAM, associate professor of chemistry at Mills College, has been appointed professor of chemistry in the Dominican College of San Rafael.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

TUMORS IN THE LOWER CARBONIFEROUS

UNUSUAL growths on the fin spines of modern fishes have been known for a long time under the name of Osteomae. They are hard, dense and almost ivory-like. I do not know what produces these pathological growths, since no one has studied them for the determination of this point, so far as I know. While summarizing our knowledge of pathological conditions[1] among fossil vertebrates I mentioned these growths as possible tumors, and stated that they were unknown among fossil fishes.

Recently Mr. Errol Ivor White[2] has sent me his paper describing a collection of fishes from sections of the Lower Carboniferous rocks below Newton Farm in the parish of Foulden, five miles west of Berwick-on-Tweed, by the youthful Thomas M. Ovens, whose death at the age of nineteen cut short what might have been a marvelous intellectual career.

One of the incomplete specimens of *Phanerosteon mirabile* Traquair shows on the anal radials "bladder-wrack"[3] osteomae, which are so common in some types of living fishes. This discovery is not only the first of the fossil osteomae, but it is the earliest geological record of any pathological growth in the vertebrate group. It is the earliest pathological record.

ROY L. MOODIE

SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

MASTODON REMAINS IN WASHINGTON

ABOUT the middle of August there was found on the property of Virgil Schaefer, about four miles northeast of the village of Blyn, Clallam County, Washington, some remains of a mastodon. Because of the

[1] "Paleopathology, an Introduction to the Study of Ancient Evidences of Disease." Chapter iii. Urbana, 1923.

[2] "The Fish Fauna of the Cement Stones of Foulden, Berwickshire." *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinburgh,* LV, pt. I (No. 11), p. 268, 1927. Text figure 19, A.

[3] A seaweed, *Fucus vesiculosus,* yielding material prescribed for obesity, goiter, etc.

location, the northeast corner of the Olympic Peninsula, the matter seems worthy of record.

The find included two tusks in a fair state of preservation, one entire and one broken in two. The tusks were 64 and 64 3/16 inches long, respectively, the measurement being made on the outer curve. The diameter at the base was slightly over 20 inches. The weight was estimated at 35 pounds.

Just below the base of the tusks, which were in a horizontal position, were five teeth and a number of bony fragments, presumably of the jaw. One tooth comprised five sets of triple protuberances which were well pointed. Another tooth comprised four sets of triple protuberances with a fifth small stub. The enamel in both of these was in good condition. The other three teeth, each three and one-half to five and one-half inches long, comprised three sets each of double protuberances, in one case worn down about three-fourths of an inch, in the second, worn slightly more, and in the third, the smallest of the group, worn to the base of the points.

The bones were found in the course of the digging of a ditch to drain a swampy area which has been a beaver swamp within the memory of the present inhabitants of the region. The following section was exposed in the trench:

a. peaty bog muck, 2 feet 0 inches; b. marly clay, 0 feet 1 inch; c. peaty clay, dark, 2 feet 6 inches; d. sandy clay, fossiliferous, 1 foot 0 inches (base concealed).

The fossils have not been studied, but include abundant fragments of minute gastropods and other shells. The mastodon remains were in the layer c. approximately three feet below the present surface of the swamp, which is not far above sea-level.

HAROLD E. CULVER
STATE GEOLOGIST OF WASHINGTON

AVAILABLE MATERIAL IN COMPARATIVE ANATOMY AND PATHOLOGY

THE Laboratory of Comparative Pathology of the Philadelphia Zoological Society has rather extensive material of anatomical and of pathological character, some of which is not entirely used by the laboratory personnel. It has been our policy to supply to accredited investigators a moderate amount of material for their problems.

I am writing this letter to make it more generally known that material is available, because we wish no opportunities lost to be of service to workers in these general lines. This material will be given to research and teaching institutions that receive the approval of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. It will be sold to dealers whose business it is to distribute material.

Since this laboratory has no shipping department, it will be necessary for workers who desire material to supply us with mailing and express cases suitable for the specimens they desire, and to pay postage and expressage. The laboratory can not engage to embalm or inject tissues free of charge, but may be able to undertake small problems of this kind for the time-cost of the labor.

There are now available a moderate number of male and female genital tracts and of intestinal tracts. A few central nervous systems and ductless glands may also be supplied, but many of these in our laboratory are already preempted. The group specimens are grossly normal, but have not been investigated microscopically.

In so far as pathological material is concerned, the laboratory will supply only what develops in the routine autopsies and is not needed for museum purposes. Specimens needed for the collection, and those already mounted for the museum will not be supplied.

HERBERT FOX
THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF PHILADELPHIA

REPORT OF THE RANSOM MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

THE committee which has been in charge of the establishment of a memorial to the late Dr. Brayton H. Ransom, after a careful study of the opinions expressed in answer to a questionnaire on the subject and a consideration of the limitations placed on the choice of a memorial by the size of the fund, has come to a decision as to the form to be taken by the memorial. It has been decided that the fund be invested and that the interest be used as a money prize of $100 when that amount is available, to be awarded by the committee to a person of any nationality who has not passed his fortieth birthday at the time of the award, and who has made a comparatively recent noteworthy contribution in the field of parasitology.

The fund at present totals $930 in actual subscriptions and $135 in unpaid pledges, approximately 100 persons, representing fifteen countries in addition to the United States, having cooperated in bringing the fund to its present status, the individual contributions ranging from $1 to $100.

The fund has thus far been kept in a savings account drawing the usual interest, in the hope that a $1,000 total might be actually available for investing in a more remunerative manner; the question of investment is now being carefully investigated by the committee.