

at Perivale, higher up the river, which, 25 years ago, set an example that has been widely followed of preserving for urban districts the interesting birds of the countryside. It will not be necessary for the Selborne Society to take over the mansion, but if funds allow, as this has been fitted up as a hospital by the government, two good things might be done at once, for it could most appropriately be placed at the disposal of some charitable organization, or it could be used as the beginning of a folk museum, which ought to be inaugurated in this country before it is too late. The property was advertised as for sale by auction in building plots a few days ago, but some members of the Selborne Society have, for the moment, saved it from this fate. Donations can, therefore, now be invited towards its purchase and maintenance, which should be sent to the treasurer, Sir John Otter, at the Hermitage, Hanwell, W.7."

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, which has announced plans for extensive improvement of its downtown campus, is preparing to add to its Evanston, Ill., campus a \$750,000 union building.

DR. FRANK VINSONHALER, professor of ophthalmology at the school of medicine of the University of Arkansas, has been made dean of the school.

H. W. VAUGHAN, professor and animal husbandman in charge of beef cattle investigations in the University of Minnesota, has been appointed head of the animal husbandry department at the University of Montana.

JOHN LESLIE HUNDLEY, of the University of North Dakota, has been appointed assistant professor of physics at Tulane University.

E. D. COON has returned to the University of North Dakota as assistant professor of chemistry, after having spent a year's leave of absence at the University of Wisconsin, working under the direction of Professor E. O. Kraemer in colloid chemistry.

It is stated in *Popular Astronomy* that Harry H. Plaskett, of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory at Victoria, B. C., has been appointed lecturer in astrophysics in Harvard University, beginning February, 1928. A leave of absence for one year has been granted Mr. Plaskett by the Canadian government.

DR. OTTO STRUVE, of the Yerkes Observatory, University of Chicago, has been promoted to an assistant professorship of astronomy.

DR. D. S. VILLARS, who spent the past year at Göttingen in the laboratory of J. Franck, has been ap-

pointed associate in chemistry at the University of Illinois.

THE title of professor of chemistry in the University of London has been conferred on Dr. J. F. Spencer, in respect of the position held by him at Bedford College.

SIR EDWARD FARQUHAR BUZZARD has been appointed Regius professor of medicine in the University of Oxford from January 1, 1928, in the room of Sir Archibald Garrod, who has resigned.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE THE PHYSICIST AND THE FACTS OF COLOR

THERE is probably not a single physicist who has gone so far in the analysis of his color-sensations as to know that the violet, which plays such an important rôle in his list of colors, is not a unitary color at all, but plainly a "dual color blend" of some red and more blue. It can be got not only by a certain homogeneous light-frequency, but also by a physical mixture of some red light and more blue light. It no more deserves a separate enumerating than do the other dual color blends, *viz.*, the blue-greens, the yellow-greens, the reddish-yellows and the bluish-reds (what we also call the purples). In Figure 1 is

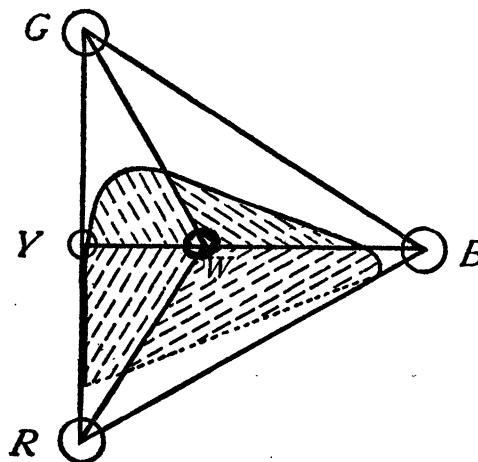


FIG. 1. The quadrigeminal color area—triangular in shape.

illustrated at once the two fundamental facts of color-vision: (1) the Young-Helmholtz fact that vision consists in a tri-receptor initial process (it is sufficient to put into your color-mixing-apparatus three fundamental light-frequencies—those which look to us red, green and blue); and (2) the Hering fact that vision (when it comes to sensation) is nevertheless tetrachromatic—there are four chromatic sensations—Yellow is just as good, just as striking and just as unitary a sensation as are Red and Green and Blue. (I write these names with capitals when the colors which