or more years of service a disability pension is payable for life. Another helpful provision is that the subscribing employees are also entitled to the service of a visiting nurse furnished free of cost by the insurance company.

THE survey made by the Social Science Research Council of the rural sociology research in progress in the United States in the year 1926–27 showed that $400,000 was being expended on 86 projects. Of this total, $175,000 was being expended by land-grant colleges and agricultural experiment stations in 21 of the states. The $400,000 total was almost exclusive of all sums spent by federal bureaus.

THE records of the Great Lakes Ornithological Club have recently been given to the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto. These records cover the period from May, 1905, to December, 1927, and include observations on the occurrence and abundance of birds both migrant and resident at Point Pelee, Ontario. This area is of special interest for two reasons. Extending into Lake Erie as it does it serves as a sort of funnel through which migrations are concentrated, and, being the most southern mainland point in Canada, some birds typical of more southern regions are found as residents of Canada only at this point.

ACCORDING to the Experiment Station *Record,* provision was made by the last Alabama legislature for five substations to be known as the Tennessee Valley, the Sand Mountain, the Black Belt, the Wire Grass and the Gulf Coast Substations. Two of these substations are to be established prior to September 30, 1928, and the remainder during the following year. An appropriation of $25,000 was made for buildings and equipment for each substation and $12,000 each for maintenance and operation. The act requires the donation of not less than 200 acres of representative soil for each substation.

ON November 8 the steamer *Halcyon,* of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, was sold at Woods Hole, Mass. The *Halcyon* is a wooden vessel 108 feet 6 inches long, over all, with a 22-foot beam and 10-foot draft, built in 1917. Her cost, including equipment, was $44,000. The vessel was well built but of unusual design, being planned originally for both the collection of seed lobsters along the Maine coast and offshore investigations. After the acquisition by the bureau of the *Albatross II,* the need for the *Halcyon* ceased.

SPONSORED by King Albert and the leading industrialists and financiers of Belgium, a move has been started for the establishment of a permanent museum and laboratory for scientific research. It will probably be situated in Brussels. It is hoped to develop the projected museum and laboratory into a center of study where all nations would exhibit their scientific equipment. The first of the exhibitions would be held in 1930.

## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

A. P. GIANNINI has placed his 1927 income, as president of the Bancitaly Corporation, at the disposal of the University of California. Under the terms of the gift, $1,000,000 will go toward the establishment of the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics and $500,000 will be used for erection of a building on the university campus in Berkeley, dedicated to ways and means of improving the economic condition of farmers, dairy and livestock men and fruit growers in California.

DR. JOHN GOODRICH CLARK, who was chief gynecologist at the University of Pennsylvania when he died last May, left an estate of over $1,000,000, a large part of which will go to the university.

LARS G. ROMELL, of the Swedish Forest Experiment Station at Stockholm, has been appointed to the Charles Lathrop Pack research professorship in forest soils at Cornell University and will take up his duties about April 1. The establishment of this professorship, said to be the first of its kind in an American university, has been made possible by the recently announced endowment of $130,000 for the chair, together with important additional gifts for its operating funds, from the Charles Lathrop Pack forestry trust.

PROFESSOR LEON BRILLOUIN, of the Collège de France, has been appointed acting professor of theoretical physics in the University of Wisconsin for the second semester of the academic year 1927–28.

DR. JESSE PERRY ROWE, professor of geology at the University of Montana, has been appointed visiting professor of geology at Princeton University for the academic year 1928–29.

DR. HERBERT SPENCER HARNED, professor of physical chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed professor of the same subject at Yale University.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### DISCOVERY OF FURTHER HOMINID REMAINS OF LOWER QUATERNARY AGE FROM THE CHOU KOU TIEN DEPOSIT

AT a meeting of the Geological Society of China held on December 2, 1927, announcement was made of the discovery of a lower molar hominid tooth in the cave deposit at Chou Kou Tien near Peking. The new specimen was obtained close to the site from which the first hominid teeth from this locality were

recovered and in the same stratum of the deposit. (V. this Journal, Dec. 17, 1926, p. 586.) This deposit, which at first was thought to be Upper Pliocene, is now known to be basal Lower Quaternary in age (very early Pleistocene). The find was made on October 16 by Dr. Birger Bohlin, paleontologist attached to the Geological Survey of China. Mr. C. Li, geologist from the survey, and Dr. Bohlin have been in charge of the extensive excavations on this important site which have been carried on during the past season by the Geological Survey in cooperation with the department of anatomy of the Peking Union Medical College.

The tooth is a relatively unworn and perfectly preserved left lower permanent molar, having incompletely formed root tips and evidently from an individual in the stage of development represented by that of an eight-year-old modern European child. The general morphology of this specimen leaves no room for doubt as to its hominid status and it evidently was derived from the same jaw as that from which came the lower premolar tooth discovered last year by Dr. O. Zdansky. A full description of the latter specimen and of the associated worn upper molar has been published this year by Dr. Zdansky. (*v. Bull. Geol. Soc. China,* Vol. V, No. 3.)

Evidence of a convincing nature points to a close mutual relationship between the two individuals, adult and immature, represented by the teeth recovered from the Chou Kou Tien deposit. The newly discovered specimen displays in the details of its morphology a number of interesting and unique characters, sufficient it is believed to justify the proposal of a new hominid genus *Sinanthropus,* to be represented by this material. A complete and fully illustrated report on this new specimen is now in press and will be published early in December in Series D, *Palaeontologia Sinica,* Vol. VII, Fasc. 1.

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NOVEMBER 24, 1927

## AN INSTANCE OF THE INCREASE OF MALARIA BY CIVILIZATION

IN 1910, in the *Atti Soc. per gli Studii della Malaria* (Rome), the writer published an article about the apparently paradoxical situation that results in the gradual disappearance of malaria following the settlement of a new country and its reappearance as the result of a dense civilization. The perfectly obvious reasons for this were detailed in the article.

Just now a new and striking instance comes to my eye in an important paper, just received, entitled "Report of an Investigation of a Malaria Epidemic in Solo (Dutch East Indies), 1926," by S. L. Brug and Dr. E. W. Walch (Batavia, 1927).

It seems that in the old days a part of the city of Solo (150,000 inhabitants) was from time to time inundated during the wet monsoon. The Dutch authorities diked one side of the city and constructed a storm-water canal on the other. This storm-water canal is flushed at regular intervals during the wet monsoon, and during the dry monsoon carries comparatively little water. Pools form in the corrugated bottom and others are made by the digging of sand for cement used in making houses. Formerly the town seems to have been comparatively free from malaria, but towards the end of 1925 this disease began rapidly to increase, with a high mortality, reaching a climax in January, 1926.

Although, of course, there were other breeding places of Anopheles, the portions of the city most affected were along the storm-water canal which had not been flushed for an abnormally long time. It is reasonably supposed that the Anopheles carriers bred in the storm canal pools, and that the normalization of the water of the canal at all times in the future is plainly indicated.

L. O. HOWARD

WASHINGTON,
JANUARY 7

## THE SCIENTIFIC MEN OF HARVARD AND OF COLUMBIA

IN my statistical study of the distribution of American men of science, printed in the fourth edition of the "Biographical Directory of American Men of Science" (December, 1927) and in abstract in SCIENCE (November 25, 1927), it is stated that of 1,176 leading scientific men of the United States, Harvard has 89.5 and Columbia 46.5 (the fraction referring to a part time or emeritus position), whereas in 1906 of the leading 1,000 scientific men Harvard had 66.5 and Columbia 60. It is also shown that when the men are weighted by objective methods (the situation being substantially the same when they are only counted) Harvard stands first among universities in seven of the twelve sciences, second in three and third in one, whereas Columbia stands first in only one science and in no other has a rank among all institutions higher than fifth.

While not mentioned in the book, it may be noted that the disparity between the two universities is greatly increased by the circumstance that Harvard has 1,088 officers of instruction, Columbia, 2,075.