

uate students, have been established in each of these subjects. A number of fellowships at \$1,000 each are still available for 1928-29 in the schools of biology and chemistry. Applications should be addressed to the secretary of the appropriate department.

THE new Daniel Guggenheim aeronautical laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was formally dedicated and opened for use on June 4.

THE three-story science building of St. Leo's College in Florida was destroyed by fire on June 1, the damage being estimated at \$35,000.

AGASSIZ MUSEUM, the Harvard University museum of comparative zoology, was opened again to the public, beginning June 19, following the first extensive remodeling it has had in fifty years. The museum has been closed for about six months while repairs were being made. During the past six months the whole museum has been redecorated and repainted; the building has been entirely renovated. Several old collections which were deemed unsuitable for further exhibition have been discarded and all the exhibits have been rearranged. Several exhibits, new to the university, have been prepared, one being a hall of oceanic mammals, another one of domesticated animals and others designed to show heredity and the variation of animals under domestication.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE has by executive order re-established for the protection of native birds the Pathfinder Bird Refuge, embracing 22,700 acres on the North Platte River in central Wyoming, according to an announcement by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The area is set aside as one of the numerous refuges administered by the Bureau of Biological Survey.

To exchange ideas with the leaders of forestry and outdoor life in Europe and to study the problems of European forests, a group of members of the American Forestry Association, Washington, and others vitally interested in forests, parks and wild life sailed from New York on June 30. The tour will include France, Germany, Switzerland, Finland and Sweden.

### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

ESTABLISHMENT of a trust fund of between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000 for the University of Virginia has been announced by President Edwin A. Alderman. The money was given by an anonymous donor. Half of the income from this fund is to be used for the establishment of scholarships and fellowships, and the remainder for the general educational purposes of the university.

BOWDOIN COLLEGE received over \$1,000,000 in gifts during the last year. This includes a \$250,000 bequest from F. A. Munsey; \$150,000 from the estate of Thomas Upham Coe, of Bangor, Me., and \$50,000 from David Pingree, of Salem, Mass.

THROUGH the generosity of an anonymous donor interested in the subject of chemical education a professorial chair in this field has been endowed for the immediate future in the Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Neil E. Gordon has been elected to the position. Dr. Gordon is at the present time head of the department of chemistry at the University of Maryland and state chemist.

DR. CHARLES F. HOTTES, professor of plant physiology at the University of Illinois, has been appointed professor of botany and head of the department to succeed Dr. H. L. Shantz, who becomes president of the University of Arizona.

DR. F. D'HERELLE, director of the bacteriological laboratory at Alexandria, Egypt, has been appointed professor of bacteriology at Yale University. Dr. d'Herelle was born in Montreal and still retains his Canadian citizenship. He will arrive in the United States about September 1.

PROMOTIONS and appointments on the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have been announced. Those promoted from the grade of associate professor to full professorships include: John B. Babcock, professor of railway engineering; J. W. M. Bunker, professor of biochemistry and physiology; H. H. W. Keith and George Owen, professors of naval architecture; Charles Terzaghi, professor of foundations, and Clair E. Turner, professor of biology and public health.

DEAN EDWARD H. ROCKWELL, of the College of Engineering, Rutgers University, has been appointed professor of civil engineering in Lafayette College.

ROBERT L. SPENCER, chief engineer of the McAlenon Corporation of Pittsburgh, has been elected dean of the department of engineering of the University of Delaware, to succeed the late Professor V. G. Smith.

DR. E. D. RIES, director of the division of industrial research in the school of chemistry and physics at the Pennsylvania State College, has resigned to give all his attention to his duties as head of the chemical engineering department, he having filled both positions for the past year. Dr. William J. Sweeney, formerly of the chemistry faculty and for the past two and a half years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been appointed assistant professor of research and director of the division.

At the University of Edinburgh, Dr. F. A. E. Crew has been appointed professor of animal genetics and director of the university department of research in animal breeding. The chair, which is to be known as the Buchanan chair of animal genetics, was founded by a donation from Lord Woolavington, supplemented by a grant from the International Education Board.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### RESEARCH PLUS NEWS-GATHERING

ALTHOUGH not primarily a research institution, Science Service is now contributing in a small measure to the advancement of science.

In some instances it is possible to combine a certain degree of research with the news-gathering activities of the Service. The most successful instance to date is the earthquake reporting service that Science Service organized and conducts with the cooperation of the leading seismological observatories, the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the Jesuit Seismological Association. This system serves the needs of seismologists as well as newspapers. During the year ending March 31, 1928, twenty-seven earthquakes were located and reported through this service. As many as eighteen seismological observatories, some as far away as Alaska and the Philippines, have cooperated. Whereas before the inauguration of this service scientists and the public were often in ignorance for weeks as to the location of many earthquake epicenters, now practically every shock of any importance is located within six to twenty-four hours. We often locate disastrous earthquakes, and predict loss of life that occurred, days and weeks before the news reaches the world through the routine news channels. When the Bulgarian city of Philippopolis was destroyed on April 18, Science Service reported the earthquake early the next day, stating the probability of disaster, while the cables did not carry the news until April 21. On April 10 our instrumental data located a severe earthquake in eastern Peru; a week later on April 17 the news came from the region itself. On May 23, 1927, a severe earthquake in Kansu Province, China, was recorded, and Science Service announced its exact location and predicted heavy loss of life. Not until the latter part of July, two months later, did the confirmation of this great disaster filter out from the interior of the yellow continent.

This combination of research and news activity is now being extended to the fields of anthropology and archeology.

It is very important to be able to send to the spot of the alleged archeological find a competent investigator. Prompt action is necessary from the point of view of anthropology because of the liability that evi-

dence as to the character of the discovery of its geological position or the indications of the age of the deposits may be forever destroyed by careless excavators or faked relics; and from the point of view of Science Service because it is our job to see that exaggerated and misleading reports do not get the start of authentic news. To meet such emergencies we proposed to cooperate with the department of psychology and anthropology of the National Research Council by offering to provide funds sufficient for the preliminary inspection of the find if we were supplied with a list of authorized "scientific minute men" located at strategic points all over the country to whom we should be at liberty to wire for advice in cases of disputed questions. If plans for action are made in advance they might, without delaying to consult us, take train or automobile at once to the place where a prehistoric inscription or the bones of an antediluvian giant has been reported.

The division of anthropology and psychology of the National Research Council has authorized cooperation with Science Service in this undertaking and will arrange with us in preparing such a list of anthropologists and other specialists who will wire us at our expense directly from the field. This obviously requires cooperation with geologists, paleontologists, archeologists and ethnologists. By taking measures for the prompt preliminary investigations we may forestall such squabbles as those of the French savants over the alleged Glozel finds.

The volcanoes of the world will be watched as carefully and thoroughly as the earthquakes, if our plans for cooperation between Science Service and the section of volcanology of the American Geophysical Union materialize.

A committee of the section of volcanology was authorized at the recent meeting of the American Geophysical Union to work out methods of cooperation.

The volcano observatories in this country and abroad, scientists who have paid particular attention to volcanoes and who live in their vicinity and others will be invited to participate in a volcano reporting organization by means of which accurate and prompt information on volcanic activities will be obtained by wire and cable, supplemented by mail reports. It is also planned to bring together historical data upon known active volcanoes which will be of service to both newspapers and scientists. Volcanologists have expressed themselves as feeling that this service will aid their science as effectively as the earthquake reporting service of Science Service has aided the science of seismology.

Science Service desires to extend in the future such combined news-gathering and research activities, and we should like to receive from scientists and scientific