As an economic question, there can be no difference of opinion on the wisdom of such an investment of public funds; as a social question, none can equal it in importance.

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE Trustees of the American Museum of Natural History held a regular meeting in New York on November 12, immediately following a luncheon given by President Henry Fairfield Osborn. The November meeting is the most important one of the year, as at this time a general report of the activities of the museum for the current year is furnished and the future progress and scope of its work, as well as the financial problems confronting it, are given.

Following a policy initiated by President Osborn a few years ago, creating committees of trustees, who should concern themselves with the different branches of science in the museum and become responsible for their development, reports of the chairmen of fifteen such committees were given. The African and Asiatic Halls and their collections, which are directed by Trustees Daniel E. Pomeroy and Junius S. Morgan, Jr., respectively, are having the preparation of their groups hastened to completion. All of the specimens for these groups have been the gifts of supporters of the museum. In the case of the African Hall, the donors are George Eastman, Daniel E. Pomeroy, the late Col. D. G. Wentz, Arthur S. Vernay and Mr. and Mrs. G. Lister Carlisle, while the groups in the South Asiatic Hall were collected by Arthur S. Vernay and Col. J. C. Faunthorpe and are the gift of Mr. Vernay.

Favorable reports were given by Mr. George F. Baker, Jr., on the development of the Morgan Hall of Minerals; on geology and geography, by Dr. A. Hamilton Rice; on the department of paleontology, by Childs Frick; of the increased interest in anthropology and archeology, by Clarence L. Hay; of the collection of nearly extinct mammals, by Madison Grant; of the progress made in the Hall of Ocean Life, by George T. Bowdoin; of insect life, by George D. Pratt; on the Hall of Fishes, by Cleveland E. Dodge; on amphibians and reptiles, by Douglas Burden; the additions to the library, by Ogden Mills; the report on education, by Felix M. Warburg. President Osborn reported that forty expeditions had been in operation during the year, thirty-two of which were privately supported. The field activities were reported and especial comment made upon the work of such as the Central Asiatic Expedition, the Roraima Expedition to British Guiana, the Vernay Expedition to Indo-China, the Whitney South Sea Expedition, the Carlisle-Clark Expedition to Africa, seven expeditions for fossils to New Mexico, Arizona, Montana, Texas and Florida, the Stoll-McCracken Arctic Expedition, the Tyler-Duida Expedition to Venezuela and others.

DEDICATION OF THE ENGINEERING LABORATORY OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

THE new engineering building at Princeton University was dedicated on November 15 with ceremonies attended by delegates from more than a hundred universities and engineering schools. At the formal ceremonies Charles Z. Klauder, the architect, turned over the keys of the building to President Hibben, who accepted them in the name of the trustees. Dean Greene made an address. A luncheon was later given at Princeton Inn, at which Carlton S. Proctor, of New York, president of the Engineering Association, Dean Augustus Trowbridge, of the Princeton Graduate College, and Dean Dexter Kimball, of the Cornell Engineering School, spoke.

The cornerstone of the building was laid May 12, 1927, Dr. Michael I. Pupin, of Columbia University, being the principal speaker. The cost of construction was $500,000. At the same time building operations were begun on the new chemical laboratory, which is still under construction. Although not fully completed, the engineering building was opened to classes at the beginning of this semester.

Civil engineering at Princeton was established in 1875, and graduate electrical engineering in 1889. In 1921 these were merged and enlarged into the School of Engineering, adding mechanical, chemical and mining engineering.

The engineering building has been designed in the collegiate Gothic style of the other Princeton structures. The entrance leads into a foyer, opening into the library, the conference room and the two stair halls. The library, which is finished in Gothic detail, will serve as a study hall, with reference books and current periodicals. The conference room, constructed and furnished by the Princeton Engineering Association to emphasize the factor of beauty in the equation of efficiency, is planned for meetings and informal consultations.

The building contains three wings, in which are found classrooms, drawing rooms for each class and laboratories. The north laboratory contains a high-pressure boiler and superheater, steam engines and turbine with condensers and outside cooling tower, internal combustion engines, dynamometers for testing these engines and automobiles, refrigerating apparatus, air compressors, fan blowers and transmission apparatus of the belt and gear form. The three south laboratories are devoted to electrical engineering and hydraulics. Direct and alternating current

machines, reaction and impulse turbines, pumps and hydraulic apparatus are to be placed in these rooms. The long testing flume will be used for current meters and models. The second floor contains a laboratory classroom for electrical instrument work, a dark room for illumination and oscillograph work, small rooms for mechanical work and a large room for research.

THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

THE autumn meeting of the American Physical Society will be held at the University of Minnesota on November 30 and December 1. The new laboratory of physics of the university will be dedicated on the evening of the thirtieth. The program is as follows:

NOVEMBER 30

10:00–12:00 M.

Reading of Papers, Physics Auditorium.

12:00–1:30 P. M.

Luncheon, Ballroom, Minnesota Union.

1:30–5:00 P. M.

Dedicatory Symposium, Physics Auditorium.

PROFESSOR HERMANN WEYL (University of Zürich): Address: "Laws of Conservation and Rulés of Intensity in Quantum Mechanics."

PROFESSOR K. T. COMPTON (Princeton University): "Scattering of Electrons."

PROFESSOR E. U. CONDON (Princeton University): "Quantum Theory of Aperiodic Effects."

DR. F. L. MOHLER (Bureau of Standards): "Photo-ionization and Recombination."

DR. IRVING LANGMUIR (General Electric Co.): "Motions of Positive Ions in Ionized Gases."

6:00–8:00 P. M.

Complimentary Dinner, Ballroom, Minnesota Union, DEAN G. S. FORD, presiding.

Welcome to Guests—PRESIDENT L. D. COFFMAN.

Response—DR. KARL T. COMPTON.

Addresses—DR. W. F. G. SWANN and PROFESSOR S. C. LIND.

8:15 P. M.

Dedicatory Exercises, Physics Auditorium, PRESIDENT L. D. COFFMAN, presiding.

Presentation of building on behalf of Regents—HON. FRED B. SNYDER.

Acceptance—DEAN J. B. JOHNSTON and PROFESSOR H. A. ERIKSON.

Dedicatory Address—PROFESSOR JOHN ZELENY: "The Place of Physics in the Modern World."

DECEMBER 1

10:00–12:00 M.

Reading of Papers, Physics Auditorium.

12:00–2:30 P. M.

Drive. St. Anthony boulevard, Memorial Drive, Glenwood, Lake of the Isles to Minnekada Club for luncheon. Continue drive Calhoun, Harriet, Minnehaha, River Road to Laboratory.

2:30 P. M.

Reading of Papers, Physics Auditorium.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THOMAS CHROWDER CHAMBERLIN, emeritus professor of geology in the University of Chicago, died on November 15 at the age of eighty-five years.

WILLIAM NORTH RICE, emeritus professor of geology in Wesleyan University, died on November 13, at the age of eighty-three years.

IT is announced from Stockholm that Nobel prizes in chemistry for 1927 and 1928 have been awarded to Dr. Heinrich Wieland, professor in the University of Munich, and Dr. Adolf Windaus, professor in the University of Göttingen. Both investigators have been engaged in the study of vitamines and have done distinguished work in this and in other departments of physiology and chemistry. M. Henri Bergson, French author and philosopher, is said to have been awarded the prize in literature for 1927, and Mme. Sigrid Undset, the Norwegian authoress, for 1928.

THE following awards have been made by the president and the council of the Royal Society: Royal Medals to Professor A. S. Eddington, for his contributions to astrophysics, and to Professor R. Broom, for discoveries which have shed new light on problems of the origin of mammals; the Copley Medal to Sir Charles Parsons, for his contributions to engineering science; the Rumford Medal to Professor F. Paschen, for his contributions to the knowledge of spectra; the Davy Medal to Professor F. G. Donnan, for his contributions to physical chemistry, particularly for his theory of membrane equilibrium; the Darwin Medal to Dr. L. Cockayne, for his contributions to ecological botany; the Sylvester Medal to Professor W. H. Young, for his contributions to the theory of functions of a real variable; the Hughes Medal to M. le Duc de Broglie, for his work on X-ray spectra.

DR. HERMAN SCHNEIDER, professor of civil engineering, dean of the college of engineering, and now acting president of the University of Cincinnati, has been made an honorary member of the Cincinnati Academy of Medicine.

DR. MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT, professor of organic chemistry at Columbia University, was the guest of honor at the dinner of the Engineering Foundation, New York, on October 18. Professor Bogert has re-