

DR. HUGH M. SMITH, who has been carrying on an investigation of the fish resources of Siam for the government of that country during the last several years, has been collecting natural history material in his spare time and sending the results of his labors to the U. S. National Museum, amounting now, in birds alone, to several thousand specimens.

H. V. COES, chairman of the finance committee of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, has received from Ira N. Hollis, honorary member and past-president of the society and chairman of the committee on awards, a check for \$1,000 for a "Bibliography of the History of Engineering" and for books not already in the library of the United Engineering Society in New York.

It is announced that the first congress of the International Society for Microbiology, which was to take place in Paris in October, 1929, has been definitely postponed to June, 1930.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

ISIDORE D. MORRISON, a lawyer of New York City, who has been active in the Zionist movement for more than thirty years, has contributed \$100,000, together with a pledge of \$10,000 annually for maintenance, for the establishment of an ophthalmic institute in connection with the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

DR. ALAN R. ANDERSON, of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, has taken office as dean of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School to succeed Dr. William D. Cutter, who resigned last July. Dr. Cutter becomes dean of the newly organized medical school of the University of Southern California.

PROFESSOR GEORGE P. BACON, for ten years head of the department of physics at Tufts College, has been appointed dean of the Engineering School.

At Columbia University the following promotions to full professorships have been made: Sam F. Trelease, botany; Harold W. Webb, physics, and J. Enrique Zanetti, chemistry. Promotions to the rank of associate professor include: Earl T. Engle and Bern B. Gallaudet, anatomy; Frederick B. Flinn, physiology in industrial hygiene; Louis P. Hammett, chemistry; John E. Orchard, economic geography; Willard L. Severinghaus, physics, and T. Clinton Taylor, chemistry.

DR. JAMES PIERPONT, professor of mathematics at Yale University, will be a member of the coming University of California Summer Session at Berkeley.

DR. JOSEPH L. GILLSON, associate professor in the department of geology of the Massachusetts Institute

of Technology, has been granted a leave of absence for the year 1929-30, and will serve as associate professor of economic geology at Northwestern University.

DANIEL FRANKLIN HIGGINS, a graduate of Northwestern University and for the present semester lecturer in petroleum geology at that institution, has accepted the professorship of geology at Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee, for the year 1929-30.

DR. DIETER THOMA, head of the division of hydraulics at the Technical School at Munich, will be visiting lecturer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology next October.

DR. E. L. BRUCE, professor of mineralogy at Queen's University since 1920, has been appointed first Miller Memorial Professor of Research Geology at Queen's University. The new chair has been founded by friends and students of the late Dr. Miller and by mining companies in Northern Canada.

DISCUSSION

THE FALL ZONE PENEPLANE

WITH the passing of years the subject of the peneplanes of the eastern United States has not gained in simplicity, and some may feel that the addition of another name to those already proposed for such features will needlessly complicate the existing confusion. Nevertheless, the erosional surface to which it is proposed to apply the term Fall Zone peneplane is of considerable importance to the geomorphologic history of the region between Connecticut and Georgia, although it has lacked proper recognition, perhaps on account of the absence of a convenient and suitable means of designation. In the following paragraphs the author sets forth his reasons for adopting the term "Fall Zone peneplane" in the hope that others may find the name useful.

The recognition that the erosional surface underlying the Coastal Plain deposits is entirely distinct in origin from the upland peneplanes of New England and the Piedmont has been a matter of slow development, which need not be discussed here. A number of years ago Shaw¹ reviewed the literature and emphasized the relationships for the region southwest of the Hudson; more recently Renner² has carried the discussion into southern New England. He recognizes the presence of two peneplanes where Davis and earlier writers had found only one: an older steeply sloping surface exposed by the stripping

¹ E. W. Shaw, "Ages of Peneplanes of the Appalachian Province," *Bull. G. S. A.*, 29: 575-586, 1913.

² G. T. Renner, "The Physiographic Interpretation of the Fall Line," *Geog. Review*, 17: 278-286, 1927.