I have already suggested in an article entitled, "A Continuing Universe," published in *Popular Astronomy,* Vol. XXXVI, No. 6.

As Dr. Moulton well remarks, many minds seem to have a horror of an unending past or future, or of infinite space; yet in these very conceptions surely we have the most promising solution of the riddle of the universe. Though we can not understand all the processes, we may rest assured that Nature is not growing old, but is ever rising from the ashes of its past to renew its youth in immortal vigor.

J. G. PORTER

CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY,
APRIL 10, 1929

CHEMICAL TRAINING

THE sketch of the distinguished career of Thomas Burr Osborne (SCIENCE, April 18) recalls an incident of his early manhood, when he had just received his appointment as assistant in analytical chemistry at Yale but had not yet reached his doctorate. The quality of thoroughness, the "do-it-right" attitude, the meticulous care with which he carried on his experimentation, his intellectual integrity all showed themselves in 1883 when in a discussion carried on by a group of young people at a summer resort he exclaimed, "Training in a chemical laboratory does more to develop sound ethics than Sunday School lessons can ever do." One can not help asking whether present-day instructors are insisting that strict integrity more surely leads to success than cleverness in "getting by" does. That is one heritage from Thomas Burr Osborne.

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SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH OFFERED AT THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES OF THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES

THE fisheries biological laboratories of the United States Bureau of Fisheries at Woods Hole, Mass., Beaufort, N. C., and Fairport, Iowa, will reopen for the summer's activities on June 17.

In accordance with the long-established policy of the bureau, facilities for research will be afforded at the various stations to independent investigators in addition to the bureau's regular staff. But the opening of the stations this year is especially worthy of being called to the attention of the scientific public, for extensive improvements and alterations in buildings, grounds and equipment completed during the last two seasons make these facilities more attractive than ever before.

The advantages of the stimulating surroundings at Woods Hole, where association with the great Marine Biological Laboratory and use of its library may be had, need not be stressed here. The fisheries laboratory, however, in addition to the usual advantages of any well-situated marine biological station, such as convenient supply of marine animals and plants, the common laboratory equipment and running sea-water, offers unusual opportunities for combining experimental work in the laboratory with field observations on ocean ecology. Such problems, for example, as studies of the factors controlling migration of the animal plankton, the richness of chemical foodstuff in sea-water compared with fluctuating abundance of the phytoplankton, and an almost unlimited number of problems of the same general type involving experimental work on the one hand and field work at sea on the other, might be cited as opportunities peculiar to this station. In addition to newly finished oceanographic and physiological workrooms and chemical storerooms at the laboratory, the service of such floating equipment as the bureau's sea-going steamer *Albatross II* and steamer *Phalarope,* which base at Woods Hole during part of the year, two smaller launches and several rowboats may be obtained. Furthermore, the chance to participate in a "going" program of fishery biology, such as studies that the bureau is now making on the bionomics of marine fisheries of the North Atlantic region, should prove attractive.

Owing to the increased demand for these accommodations, it has become necessary to make careful selection of those who are granted the privileges of the laboratory. Applications made well in advance are reviewed by a committee, and preference is given to those investigators who work along lines of especial interest to the bureau and who have shown ability for energetic and productive research.

Less well known to the younger generation is the fisheries biological laboratory at Beaufort, N. C. Since before the Civil War, the comfortable little city of Beaufort has been a favored resort for biologists, and the present biological station, opened for research in 1902, has been occupied almost continuously during the summer season in exploration and research. The station is situated on Pivers Island about 150 yards from the mainland in Beaufort Harbor and consists of a two-story frame laboratory building, 70 feet long and 42 feet wide, with two-story wings each 52 feet long, surrounded by porches. There are also adjacent to the main building a mess hall, power house, carpenter shop, boat house and terrapin-rearing house, and along the shores are constructed 15 large concrete enclosures for the rearing of terrapin. During the past year all of these build-