heim made additional gifts, and these, with the fund which established the Guggenheim School of Aeronautics at New York University, and which was not included originally, bring the fund's total to approximately $4,500,000. Of this sum nearly $2,000,000 has gone directly to schools. Special gifts and fellowships have taken $19,840; aeronautical societies $60,000, while the prizes for the safety contest will require $150,000.

Industrial and Engineering Chemistry reports that the membership of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers by a recent letter ballot overwhelmingly indicated a preference for setting the institute upon a more businesslike basis and employing a full-time business manager or executive secretary to undertake the management of the institute's affairs. It is probable that the council will take official action on that expression. This will lead to the establishment of a permanent headquarters, provided with the customary office facilities for the conduct of business. The opportunity resulting from this probable action should interest a number of those qualified, particularly progressive and active young chemical engineers, and those whom this may attract are invited to communicate with H. C. Parmelee, secretary, Tenth Ave. at Thirty-sixth St., New York City. Sufficient particulars concerning training and experience of any interested should accompany the communication in order that the council may have the fullest possible details before it in considering applications.

THE London *Times* states that the British delegates who attended the meetings of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea which were held in London last April have published their report. It shows that the discussions ranged over a variety of practical and scientific problems connected with fishery, but perhaps those most generally interesting concerned the protection of whales. The Whaling Committee of the Council, says the report, had the advantage of having as chairman Dr. Hjort, who has wide knowledge of Arctic whaling and is well informed on the economic aspects of Antarctic whaling. The committee had also the assistance of Dr. Kemp, director of the *Discovery* investigations, who gave information on the relative numbers of mature and immature whales killed at certain tropical stations on the African coast, besides facts revealed by the work of the *Discovery* expedition. The general feeling of the committee was that, although it is not at present possible to put forward recommendations which can be said to have a strictly scientific foundation, nevertheless it "feels strongly that the enormous expansion of the whaling industry in recent years constitutes a real menace to the maintenance of the stocks of whales, and that if the expansion continues at the present rate there is a real risk of those stocks being so reduced as to cause serious detriment to the industry." The report admits that until scientific researches have reached a definite conclusion it is impossible to devise permanent measures of protection, but the committee thinks that the governments of the countries interested should, as a matter of urgency, seriously consider taking immediate temporary measures to deal with the menace. Among the measures suggested is the prohibition of killing certain species of whales, principally right whales, the protection of cows with calves and immature whales, and the prohibition or restriction of the capture of whales in certain regions, notably in the tropics.

FOR nearly seven years bird sanctuaries have been established in the royal parks in London and its vicinity. We learn from *Nature* that the occasion of the publication of the Annual Report for 1928 has been taken to review the progress made. The sanctuaries have been created at small cost and without withdrawing from the public ground to which they already had access. Development has followed on very simple lines. In certain enclosures grass has been allowed to grow, unshorn by the gardener, and additional shrubs and undergrowth such as gorse and brambles have been planted to afford cover and nesting sites for the birds. Periodical thinning is carried out where necessary in order to admit light and air, nesting-boxes and nesting-material have been provided, food is supplied during hard weather, and vermin are kept down so far as practicable. The result has been excellent from the birds' point of view, and the public shows an increasing interest in the sanctuaries and their inhabitants. Appendices to the report describe the more interesting happenings at the various sanctuaries, and give lists of breeding birds and bird visitors.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

ON October 17, the University of Buffalo opened a campaign for five million dollars, to be added to its endowment fund. The campaign closed on October 29, at which time there had already been pledged a total of $5,331,670. Among the gifts were $1,000,000 from the Schoellkopf family, $500,000 from Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Schoellkopf, $500,000 from Thomas B. Lockwood for a new library building, $200,000 from William H. Crosby and his family which with previous gifts will be used to erect a building for the

school of business administration, and $125,000 from Mrs. Joseph T. Jones for the establishment of a chair of French. With the exceptions noted, practically all the remaining contributions are to be used as the university trustees see fit.

AT the annual fall meeting of the trustees of Williams College gifts for endowment totaling approximately $384,600 were announced, of which nearly $136,000 has been donated for the Williams Professorship Foundation.

MISS NANCY BARTLETT, of Olean, N. Y., has given $150,000 to Alfred University for the construction of a men's dormitory. The building will be a memorial to her father, Frank H. Bartlett, of Olean, N. Y., long a trustee of the university.

DR. J. S. BOYCE, director of the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, has resigned, effective September 30, to join the faculty of the Yale Forest School as professor of forest pathology.

WILLIAM DUNCAN STRONG, assistant curator of North American ethnology and archeology at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, has been appointed professor of anthropology in the University of Nebraska to take the place of Dr. Hutton Webster, who has leave of absence.

CHANGES of staff in the department of chemistry and chemical engineering at the University of Maine for the college year 1929–30 were as follows: H. C. White and R. N. Pollock resigned to enter industrial fields; Dr. F. J. Guerin, E. J. Bogan and E. S. Durgan were appointed as instructors. M. G. Moore, since graduation a chemist at the Geneva Experiment Station in New York, was appointed as a teaching fellow.

DR. EDWARD J. PETRY, from 1920 to 1923 professor of botany and plant pathology in South Dakota State College at Brookings, who was successively consulting botanist for the experiment station and survey botanist for the South Dakota Geological and Biological Survey during 1924–25, has recently been transferred from Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas, where he was for three years professor and head of biology, to the headship of biology in Central College, Fayette, Missouri.

DR. GEORGE P. STEINBAUER, formerly instructor at the University of Minnesota, has been appointed assistant professor of botany at the University of Maine.

SIR WILFRED GRENFELL was installed as rector of the University of St. Andrews on November 6.

DISCUSSION

COLLECTING IN THE LOWER EOCENE

FOLLOWING in the footsteps of Granger, Loomis, Sinclair and others, it was our privilege this summer to visit the Big Horn Basin of Wyoming and search for vertebrate fossils in the Wasatch beds of lower Eocene age. The season's hunting produced hundreds of teeth, jaws, limbs and partial skeletons which pertain to such widely varied classes as the fishes, reptiles, birds and mammals, not to mention a few invertebrates.

Collecting in this formation, which is the very threshold of the Age of Modernized Mammals, generally produces fragmentary things only. Whole skeletons are exceedingly rare, but occasionally one is found: it may be a complete crocodile or coryphodont; two or three fine specimens of *Eohippus* are known; there is in existence a splendid skeleton of *Notharctus*, an ancestral primate; a magnificent skeleton of *Diatryma*, the giant bird, was found by the American Museum. Few others such as these are in our museums.

Fossil birds are always rare, and especially in the older geological horizons, therefore the finding of a fairly complete specimen of *Diatryma* (but without skull and neck vertebrae) was particularly fortunate. This new discovery will supplement our knowledge of the giant wading birds of the Wasatch, heretofore known almost exclusively from two specimens.

A detailed report can not be made until the slow work of preparing and classifying the many specimens is completed, but it is hoped that in the array of small mammals: primates, carnivores, ungulates, rodents, insectivores, etc., there may be some new varieties now unknown to paleontology. In addition to this more technical use the collection offers choice study material for students, and much of it will be placed on exhibition.

EDWARD L. TROXELL
TRINITY COLLEGE

CONCERNING THE MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY

THE biological basis for the cure of most diseases of parasitic origin—whether of animals or plants—is to be found in the existence of a differential in susceptibility between the host and the parasite. In other words, the remedy in at least a large percentage of cases is a poison to both organisms, but it works somewhat more easily or quickly upon one than upon the other. Sometimes the differential is large, some-