

Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Relation of Athletics to College Life, Student Life. The discussions will be led by the dean, the department heads and the faculty manager

of athletics. Although designed for freshman engineering students, the conferences will be open to all who are interested, especially those who are having difficulty with their work.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

AN anonymous gift of \$100,000 to the University of California has been received for the support of research in cancer and allied subjects by the medical school and the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research. With the addition of this fund, the university will have a total endowment of \$200,000 for research in this field. Mr. and Mrs. George H. Roos, of San Francisco, recently made a gift of \$100,000 for research in thoracic surgery and cancer, and later added \$5,000 for the equipment of a clinic and research laboratory to carry on this work.

THE late Abraham Rosenberg, San Francisco merchant, who was a leader in developing world markets for California dried fruits, has included in his will a bequest of \$100,000 to the University of California as an endowment for the support of graduate research fellowships.

IN honor of Martin J. Insull, of Chicago, Mrs. Insull has founded and endowed with \$25,000 a scholarship in the college of engineering of Cornell University, from which Mr. Insull was graduated with the degree of M.E. in 1893, and in which he is himself building up a loan fund for the benefit of students. The new scholarship may be held for four years and

during that time will pay most of the scholar's expenses at college, amounting, at the present rate of tuition, to an average of more than \$1,000 a year.

It is announced that in accordance with the wish of Dr. Joseph S. Ames, who recently succeeded Dr. Frank J. Goodnow as president of the Johns Hopkins University, there will be no formal inauguration ceremonies.

THE resignation is announced of Arthur Edward Wells, professor of metallurgy at Harvard University.

DR. BENNO EDWARD LISCHER, of the University of Michigan, has been appointed full-time professor of orthodontics in the University of California.

DR. KENNETH GOODNER has been appointed instructor in bacteriology and immunology in the School of Public Health at Harvard University.

At the University of Cambridge, C. F. A. Pantin, of Trinity and Christ's Colleges, has been appointed university lecturer in zoology, and J. E. E. Craster, of Downing College, has been appointed university lecturer in geography.

DISCUSSION

SUPERFLUOUS PUBLICATIONS

THERE appears to be an increasing tendency for the publication of journals devoted to exploitation of work by individual laboratories and organizations promoting an extended program of research on varied subjects. There are dozens of institutions where the amount of manuscript produced per year is amply sufficient to fill the pages of a weekly, monthly or quarterly journal so that a reasonable temptation on the part of the executives of these institutions may readily exist for the independent maintenance of an organ of publication. It is doubtful, however, if the publicity so secured reacts favorably toward the organization concerned.

Usually such a journal is a hopeless compilation of reports on almost every subject known to science. A short article on atomic physics may be buried between a memoir on the physical properties of concrete and a report on the design of an aeroplane propeller. For continuity, the Encyclopaedia Britannica is to be preferred.

A serious problem confronts the librarian in the

cataloguing and disposition of these publications, especially in universities where reference libraries are divided and allocated to the various departmental offices. Institutions devoted to a restricted subject are forced to subscribe to a journal containing numerous articles on material of little interest in order to have on file a few papers of immediate importance. Often the smaller institutions will not subscribe to the journal and papers of importance to it are lost except through the courtesy of the particular authors in distributing reprints. The miscellaneous character of such journals is also responsible for inadequate review of their contents by the various abstract journals. Many papers so published have not been abstracted and accordingly are unknown in the bibliography of the particular subject concerned.

The research investigators in institutions maintaining private publications recognize the handicap to which they are subjected and desire to submit their reports to a medium of publication primarily concerned with papers of a similar character. If such a policy is permitted, however, the privately printed