

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ECLIPSE EXPEDITION

IN answer to a request by the University of California that the army air service cooperate with Lick Observatory in observations of the total eclipse of the sun, which will be visible in California on April 28, President W. W. Campbell has received word from the United States army headquarters in San Francisco that the requisite type of plane is available, and that such cooperation will be gladly offered.

Tentative plans call for the services of one plane at an altitude of not less than 10,000 feet, over Napa Valley, between Napa and St. Helena, and perhaps of another plane equipped to take moving pictures of the eclipse shadow and of the eclipse itself.

In explanation of the cooperative plan, President Campbell says:

The purpose of the airplane plan is to carry the observer well above the highest clouds which might be in the way of eclipse observers located on the earth's surface. The total phase of the solar eclipse will last not more than one or two seconds. The shadow of the moon on the earth's surface will be not more than one half or five eighths of a mile in width, and for an observer to locate his observing station where the shadow of the moon in its rapid northeastern travel will pass directly over him and give him the second or two of totality, will be difficult, and it is quite likely that the slight uncertainties in our knowledge of the precise position of the moon will leave many intending observers a little too far north or a little too far south to have the shadow pass over them.

The sky will not be very dark at the instant of totality because the moon will succeed in just a little more than covering the sun's image. I should guess that the observers who are fortunate enough to find themselves for a second or two in the shadow of the moon could read fine newspaper print about as easily in the open air as they would a minute or two before sunset on a clear day. This estimate, however, is very uncertain, but there will be no difficulty whatever in reading ordinary newspaper print at the time and place of totality.

The university is now preparing an observing station to photograph the eclipse from the earth's surface near Camptonville, Yuba County. This expedition, which will be under the charge of Dr. J. H. Moore and Dr. D. H. Menzel, is financed by William H. Crocker, of San Francisco, chairman of the regents of the university.

The plane to be used for high altitude observations will be of the open cock-pit type, of such construction that the upper wing will not interfere with the view of the observer or of the pilot. For a few moments before and after the eclipse, the plane will fly in the direction in which the shadow moves, northeastward,

in order to increase the length of time that the total eclipse may be viewed, by a little period.

It is suggested that there might be some interest in the taking of moving pictures of the eclipse, as also of the shadow on the ground, providing that it has edges sharp enough to be defined. In spite of the fact that maps have been prepared, showing the calculated path of the eclipse as accurately as possible, President Campbell points out that there is a possibility, though hardly a probability, that the shadow may be missed in spite of all precautions.

BUILDINGS OF THE YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

A GIFT to Yale University of \$400,000 from the General Education Board for the completion of the Clinic Building on the grounds of the New Haven Hospital, which is affiliated with the Yale School of Medicine, was announced by Dr. M. C. Winternitz, dean of the Yale School of Medicine, in an address to the alumni on February 22. This sum supplements the gift of \$2,000,000 made by the same board a year ago for construction purposes and makes possible the completion of both the Medical and Pediatrics Laboratory and the Clinic Building.

The Medical and Pediatrics Laboratory is now under construction. It will be connected on every floor with the new Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Pavilion, to be opened on March 1, and with the isolation pavilion. Excavation for the Clinic Building has been completed and the foundation is going in. The structure will be six stories high and will contain administrative offices, kitchens, dining rooms, storage, linen rooms, history rooms and pharmacy for the entire group, as well as examining and treatment rooms for out patients. The Medical and Pediatrics Laboratory will contain offices, laboratories and teaching facilities for those men on the staff concerned with non-operative therapies. There are now lacking only four units for the complete modernization of the New Haven Hospital group. These are the ward pavilions for surgery, diseases of women and contagious diseases, and the pavilion for semi-private beds.

The need for the further development of the site of the Sterling Hall of Medicine was also presented by Dr. Winternitz. It is proposed to extend the wing of the Sterling Hall of Medicine to Oak Street and to provide in this extension quarters for the psychobiology unit under Dr. Robert M. Yerkes, as well as increased facilities for the department of physiology, especially for the work in neurophysiology to be conducted by Professor John F. Fulton and Professor J. G. Dusser de Barenne, who have recently been ap-

pointed to the staff. It is also proposed to include here gymnasium, squash courts, club rooms and locker rooms for the faculty and student body connected with the Institute of Human Relations and the medical group. Dr. Winternitz stated that a further need which is being considered is that of a dormitory to be erected on property already owned by the university for the use of students connected with the Human Welfare Group.

In speaking of developments since the Institute of Human Relations was established a year ago, Dr. Winternitz stated that great progress had been made in the selection of personnel for strengthening already well-organized units affiliated with the institute. The institute, he said, will serve as a dynamo and assembling plant for those university organizations concerned from the view-point of research, teaching or treatment with problems of human well-being. The effectiveness of the institute therefore depends upon the strength of the associated units and the program during the past year has been designed for the development of these associated interests.

Construction of the Institute Building, for which \$2,000,000 was given by the Rockefeller Foundation and the General Education Board, is now well under way. It is expected that the building will be ready for use at the opening of the next academic year. It will house the department of psychiatry and mental hygiene, the graduate divisions of psychology and of the social sciences, and the child development work under Dr. Arnold Gesell.

TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF MR. C. DAVIES SHERBORN

THE following communication has been sent to the directors of the British Museum of Natural History, London:

At the seven hundred and forty-second meeting of the Biological Society of Washington on January 11, 1930, the following resolution was passed expressing the society's appreciation of the long-continued bibliographical work of C. Davies Sherborn.

WHEREAS, Charles Davies Sherborn, through his bibliographical researches, has made contributions of such outstanding importance in the field of zoology; and,

WHEREAS, He has by continued and painstaking endeavor placed in the hands of his fellow-workers in the "Index Animalium" an instrument of great usefulness; and,

WHEREAS, He has made other notable contributions such as a "Bibliography of the Foraminifera" and an "Index to the Genera and Species of the Foraminifera" and a "Catalogue of British Fossil Vertebrata," and other similar works; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Biological Society of Washington extends to Charles Davies Sherborn its appreciation and recognition of the service he has rendered to his fellow-workers in science.

The members of the Biological Society of Washington desire you to convey to Mr. Sherborn their most cordial

greetings for his health and prosperity and wish to assure him of their continued interest in and appreciation of the value to science of the bibliographical work on which he is engaged.

A. WETMORE,
President
W. H. WHITE,
Corresponding Secretary

NATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

THE Board of National Research Fellowships in the Biological Sciences, which includes within its scope the fields of anthropology, psychology, botany, zoology, agriculture and forestry, held its first meeting in 1930 on February 7 and 8, and made ten reappointments and twenty-four new appointments for the academic year 1930-31, as follows:

REAPPOINTMENTS

For Domestic Study

Frederick Bernheim—zoology
Carleton S. Soon—anthropology
Eileen W. Erlanson—botany
G. LaVerne Freeman—psychology
Anna H. Gayton—anthropology
D. A. Johansen—botany
T. J. B. Stier—zoology

For Study Abroad

Donald Keith Adams—psychology
Paul R. Gast—forestry
Dietrich C. Smith—zoology

NEW APPOINTMENTS

For Domestic Study

O. D. Anderson—psychology
George S. Avery, Jr.—botany
G. W. Beadle—agriculture
Harold W. Beams—zoology
Alden S. Crafts—botany
L. W. Gellermann—psychology
F. L. Howard—botany
W. E. Lammerts—botany
R. K. Meyer—zoology
Dorothy K. Postle—psychology
Daniel Raffel—zoology
Hugh M. Raup—botany
T. C. Schneirla—psychology
Eleanor H. Slifer—zoology
C. V. Smythe—biochemistry
Olive G. Stull—zoology
J. H. Tiffin—psychology
T. Elliott Weier—botany
Gene Weltfish—anthropology
John S. Yerakis—psychology

For Study Abroad

F. R. Immer—agriculture
W. M. Krogman—anthropology