

partment. Study of the igneous rocks will be carried on by Dr. Edward H. Watson, of the Johns Hopkins University. The stratigraphy and structure of the mountains will be studied by Professor Lewis B. Kellum and Mr. Ralph W. Imlay, of the University of Michigan.

The survey of the San Carlos Mountains with a view to coordinating detailed studies made by specialists in several branches of natural science was planned by Professor Kellum who made a preliminary reconnaissance of the district several years ago.

The party will spend the months of July, August and September in the field. They will make the entire trip from Michigan to Mexico and return by automobile. Each member will work independently and will have with him a mobile camp outfit. The cars can be used in the mountains between points suitable for camps. Side trips into the less accessible portions of the range must be made on horseback and on foot.

The execution of this project has been made possible by grants of \$2,500 from the National Research Council and \$2,000 from the Faculty Research Fund of the University of Michigan. The scientific results of the expedition will be published as a University of Michigan publication.

#### PLANS FOR THE NEW BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

PLANS for the new Harvard biological laboratory have been made public by the architects, Messrs. Coolidge, Shepley, Bulfinch and Abbott, and it was announced at the same time that work on two of the three wings of the building will be started in the early fall. The building of the third wing will wait on the raising of further sums of money. It is believed that this building, when completed, will be the finest and most scientifically equipped laboratory for biological research and study that has as yet been erected in this country.

The new building will be on Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, between the Farlow Herbarium and the Semitic Museum, and adjoining the present University Museum. When completed it will form a quadrangle, balancing that of the University Museum.

Designed as a research laboratory, the building will afford scientifically arranged quarters for the four departments of the division of biology, including botany, physiology and zoology and the Bussey Institution. The architecture is in the modernized Georgian style, in keeping with the surrounding buildings. It is five stories high, with red brick exterior walls on a reinforced concrete frame and white steel casement fenestration.

Two wings of the building, the right and center wings, with a combined length of approximately six hundred feet, will be constructed at this time. The left wing will be part of the proposed future addition, and with its completion a quadrangular court will be formed.

The interior of the building will provide the most complete and comprehensive facilities for the exacting and innumerable experiments of modern biological research. There are convenient laboratories of one, two, three and four units furnished with every imaginable service, rooms where the temperature can be kept indefinitely at any desired stage, rooms far underground where no outside sound can penetrate, aquarium rooms, excellently equipped photographic studios and dark rooms.

Lecture and seminar rooms are conveniently situated on all floors and in addition an auditorium seating a hundred and fifty is placed opposite the main entrance lobby. Not the least of the difficulties encountered in providing for the great numbers of laboratories and lecture rooms was the question of ventilation. An elaborate system of ducts, operated by machines on soundproof platforms in the top story, changes the air in the entire building continuously.

A large greenhouse is provided upon what would ordinarily be the roof, with arrangements for sun-seeking and shade-seeking plants and stone walls with water running down them for such plants as make their homes in water.

An unusual feature is a frieze running around the building above the upper tier of windows, formed of projecting copper-covered bosses, each showing one of the symbols of biological science.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

HARVARD UNIVERSITY at its commencement exercises on June 19 conferred honorary degrees with the following citations: William Morton Wheeler—Eminent as zoologist and dean of the Bussey Institution, profound student of the social life of insects, who has shown that they also can maintain complex communities without the use of reason.—Doctor of Science.

Karl Taylor Compton—A professor of physics, renowned for his contributions to its latest mysteries, the new president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.—Doctor of Laws.

UNION COLLEGE has conferred honorary degrees on Dr. Albert Wallace Hull, research physicist at the Research Laboratories of the General Electric Company,