

at Harvard, has analyzed and has found to contain foraminifera which makes this formation the equivalent of the Buliminia zone of the Navarro of Texas, which is likewise Upper Cretaceous. No material not definitely glacial or recent was found below 1,620 feet.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

At the meeting at Ithaca of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, E. B. Meyer, chief engineer of the Public Service Electric and Gas Company of Newark, N. J., was elected president for the coming year. The other officers elected were: *Vice-presidents*, W. H. Harrison, Philadelphia; Mark Eldredge, Memphis; R. H. Fair, Omaha; N. B. Hinson, Los Angeles; C. V. Christie, Montreal; *Directors*, C. R. Jones, New York; W. B. Kouwenhoven, Baltimore; G. C. Shaad, Lawrence; *National Treasurer*, W. I. Slichter, New York (reelected).

These officers together with the following hold-over officers will constitute the Board of Directors for the next administrative year, beginning on August 1: J. Allen Johnson (retiring president), Buffalo; J. B. Whitehead, Baltimore; F. O. McMillan, Corvallis; F. J. Meyer, Oklahoma City; G. G. Post, Milwaukee; R. H. Tapscott, New York; W. H. Timbie, Cambridge; F. Malcolm Farmer, New York; N. E. Funk, Philadelphia; H. B. Gear, Chicago; P. B. Juhnke, Chicago; G. A. Kositzky, Cleveland; Everett S. Lee, Schenectady; A. H. Lovell, Ann Arbor; L. W. W. Morrow, New York, and A. C. Stevens, Schenectady.

The annual report of the Board of Directors, presented at the meeting, showed a total membership on April 30 of 14,253. In addition to three national conventions and two district meetings, 1,507 meetings were held during the year by the local organizations of the institute in the principal cities and educational institutions in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

THE RETIREMENT OF PROFESSOR GLENN W. HERRICK, OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY

APPROXIMATELY seventy friends and associates of the department of entomology of Cornell University attended a dinner given in honor of Professor Glenn W. Herrick, of the class of '96, who retired from active teaching in June after more than twenty-five years' service.

Speakers at the dinner included Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey, emeritus, formerly dean of the College of Agriculture; Professor Simon H. Gage, '77, histology and embryology, emeritus; Dean Cornelius Betten, of the university faculty, and Professor Percival J. Parrott, Grad. '06, vice-director of the State Experiment Station at Geneva. Professor James G. Needham, Ph.D., '98, was toastmaster and read many letters and tele-

grams from friends unable to be present. Professor Herrick is retiring from teaching to devote more time to research and writing. He spoke briefly of the mixed emotions of the occasion.

Since 1909 he has taught the courses in economic entomology in the College of Agriculture. He returned to Ithaca then as assistant professor, from having been professor of biology and director of the State Experiment Station of Mississippi and later of Texas. In 1912 he was appointed professor of economic entomology and entomologist to the Experiment Station. Recently he has devoted himself especially to the study of insect pests of shade trees, and the University Press is to publish in August his book, "Shade Trees and Their Insect Enemies." He has written many bulletins and numerous other books; among them, "A Text-book of Zoology," "Insects of Economic Importance," "Manual of Injurious Insects," "Insects Injurious to the Household and Annoying to Man," and he collaborated with John H. Comstock, '74, and Anna Botsford Comstock, '79, on their "Manual for the Study of Insects." For several years before it was turned over to the university, Professor Herrick was secretary of the Comstock Publishing Company.

Professor Herrick is a member and former president of the American Association of Economic Entomologists, a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a fellow of the Entomological Society of America, of the Biological Society of Washington, D. C., and of Société Linnéenne de Lyon. He is a member of Quill and Dagger, Sigma Xi and Alpha Gamma Rho.

THE PALISADE INTERSTATE PARK

At the thirty-fifth anniversary luncheon of the commissioners of the Palisade Interstate Park, the offer of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., of seven hundred woodland acres along the crest of the Palisades from the New Jersey end of the George Washington Bridge to the New York State line was accepted and will be maintained as a park.

According to *The New York Times*, present plans are for the establishment of a continuous park and parkway between the bridge and the state line, a distance of thirteen miles, occupying 1,200 acres of land. Mr. Rockefeller's gift includes about 60 per cent. of this area. The commissioners already hold an additional 16 per cent., leaving 24 per cent., all of it fronting on the Palisades, to be acquired.

South of Palisade Avenue, which runs east and west through Englewood and Englewood Cliffs, the Rockefeller property lies between Hudson Terrace and the edge of the cliffs to a point 2,500 feet below the George Washington Bridge. North of Palisade Avenue it lies

between United States Route 9W and the cliffs. A condition of the offer was that all the property south of Palisade Avenue be held perpetually for park purposes and that all the property north of Palisade Avenue, east of a line 100 feet to the west of the proposed parkway, be maintained in the same manner.

As to the property west of the line, the letter made it conditional that any buildings erected on it should never exceed a certain height, and that it should not be used for commercial purposes "prior to July 1, 1945, if ever."

The restriction on buildings provided that none be erected to a height that "would make it visible from the proposed Henry Hudson Bridge across the Harlem Ship Canal and the proposed parkway extending northerly therefrom along the [Hudson] river, or from an elevation on the easterly side of the Hudson River of seventy feet above mean low-water mark."

This is the second offer made by Mr. Rockefeller. In his first offer he urged an agreement between New York and New Jersey to govern the administration of Palisades Interstate Park. At present the park is administered by separate groups of commissioners from the two states.

Two hundred guests were present at the luncheon, at which messages were received from Governor Herbert H. Lehman, of New York, and Governor Harold G. Hoffman, of New Jersey.

In reference to this gift, but referring to the highlands a little further north, *The Times* writes editorially:

Anthony Trollope in his "North America" objected to putting to military uses "the prettiest spot on the Hudson"—"one of the prettiest spots which Nature, with all her vagaries, ever formed." He wondered whether the "lads," as he called the West Point students, appreciated that they were studying amid "the sweetest river, rock and mountain scenery that the imagination can conceive." One accepts this tribute of a British visitor to the beauty of this impressive landscape, but is proud that it is a possession of the entire nation. Henry James carried it into the geography of the ideal, to be remembered, as he wrote, not as "the sternest of all seats of discipline," but as "some great Corot composition of young, vague, wandering figures in splendidly classic shades."

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BASIC RESEARCH BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ACCORDING to the terms of a bill which has passed both House and Senate in slightly differing forms and which is now in conference, the Secretary of Agriculture "is authorized and directed to conduct research into the laws and principles underlying basic problems of agriculture in its broadest aspects," and also to carry on investigations looking to improvements in handling and marketing, as well as "research relating to the conservation, development of land and water resources for agricultural purposes."

According to a statement by Science Service, the research thus contemplated is to supplement, not to replace, other researches now going on under the aegis of the Department of Agriculture; but both activities are to be coordinated so far as practicable, and "shall be conducted by such agencies of the Department of Agriculture as the Secretary may designate or establish."

The initial funds for this work will amount to \$1,000,000. This sum will be increased by an additional \$1,000,000 each year until the total reaches \$5,000,000, and thereafter the special research fund will be maintained at the latter sum each year. Forty per cent. of the total amount in any one year is to be expended under the direct supervision of the Secretary of Agriculture, in any places and for any research purposes he may approve within the frame of the act. The remaining sixty per cent. will be prorated among state agricultural experiment stations according to the size of their respective rural populations. Funds thus allocated must be matched dollar for dollar by the states receiving them.

The establishment of new laboratories is within the authorizations of the act, since it is provided that funds may be used for the erection of buildings and the purchase or rental of land needed for the purpose. These laboratories might be set up in the major agricultural regions of the United States, in places designated by the Secretary of Agriculture.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. RICHARD CHACE TOLMAN, professor of mathematical physics at the California Institute of Technology, was elected at the Los Angeles meeting president of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He succeeds Dr. Bailey Willis, emeritus professor of geology at Stanford University.

At the semi-annual meeting at Cincinnati of the

American Society of Mechanical Engineers the Holley Medal for 1934 was awarded on June 20 to Dr. Irving Langmuir, associate director of the General Electric Research Laboratory, for his "contributions to science and engineering, especially in the development of the gas-filled incandescent lamp, of the thoriated filament for thermionic emission, of atomic-hydrogen welding, of phase-control operation of the Thyatron tube, and