(9) Toxic nodular goiter and toxic diffuse goiter are less apt to occur when there has been no previous enlargement of the thyroid (endemic goiter); at least this would seem a safe conclusion based on our experience.

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A NEW OCCURRENCE OF THE FLYING REPTILE, PTERANODON

THE U. S. National Museum has recently received as a gift from Tom H. Wells, of Austin, Texas, the upper half of the left humerus of a flying reptile, probably referable to the genus *Pteranodon*. The specimen is of much scientific interest, since it records for the first time the presence of this reptile in the Eagle Ford formation (Upper Cretaceous), and also from the fact that it greatly extends the geographical range of these animals in North America. Previously they have not been known to occur south of western Kansas.

On account of the scanty nature of the specimen, its assignment to the genus *Pteranodon* must be regarded as provisional, although its relatively large size is in keeping with such an identification. However, the great pneumasticity of the bone, the peculiar sculpturing of its surface and the presence of a large characteristic deltoid process clearly indicate its Pterosaurian affinities.

C. W. GILMORE

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

THE FIRST SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY

IN March, 1862, a committee of the Trustees of Columbia College recommended the granting of the petition of Charles A. Joy, professor of chemistry in Columbia, that he be allowed to start a School of Chemistry. A college catalogue issued early in 1863 carries an announcement of the School of Chemistry; advertisements stating that the School of Chemistry would open on November 1, 1863, were published in the *New York Evening Post*, the *Times*, the *Tribune*, the *Herald* and the *American Journal of Science*. On June 1, 1864, Professor Joy gave President King a check for $500, representing the excess of the receipts of the school over its expenditures. Curiously enough, the announcement of 1863 in the college catalogue also lists 32 "graduates" of the "School of Chemistry," which at that time consisted of Professor Joy and his assistant, Maurice Perkins. Some of those listed do not appear in the official Columbia alumni register as having taken any degree in 1863, others seem to have taken the A.M. degree from the college in that year or their A.B. in previous years, so the "school" was evidently not privileged to grant degrees. The simultaneous and much stronger impulse to establish a School of Mines at Columbia led to the School of Chemistry being dropped after 1864.

Being curious to know whether this was the first advertised "School of Chemistry" in the United States I turned to the usual sources of reference and was surprised to be unable to find anything in print on the subject: C. A. Browne, who is naturally the first person to turn to with such an inquiry, is now in Europe and I solicit the help of readers of SCIENCE, some of whom must know, in answering the question. Chemistry had, of course, been taught in medical schools and colleges in the United States since 1767, but when was the first "School of Chemistry" established? I would be glad to correspond directly with any one who may wish to debate whether the "school" at Columbia really had any authorized existence since it did not grant degrees.

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NEW YORK, N. Y.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

ELECTRON EMISSION AND ADSORPTION PHENOMENA

Electron Emission and Adsorption Phenomena. By J. H. DE BOER. Translated from the manuscript by Mrs. H. E. Teves-Acly, 398 p., Cambridge, England: at the University Press; New York, The Macmillan Company, 1935; $5.50.

THE book covers the intimate relation between adsorption on surfaces and the phenomena of electron emission. It is a well-written monograph, which should be welcome to those interested either in adsorption or electron emission phenomenon or in both. The author, who with his associates has contributed much to the subject, has succeeded in developing a satisfactory concept of photoelectric and thermic emission of electrons from dielectrics or metals upon which alkali or alkaline earth metals are adsorbed. Without entering into highly mathematical derivations it is shown that the majority of such phenomena are easily interpreted with the aid of potential curves, the latter visually representing the relations between adsorbed atoms or ions and their adsorption energy. Thus it is even possible to predict the phenomena which will occur upon heating or radiation in cases in which the necessary energy data are available. Although the author, in his function as director of chemical research at the Philips Gloeilampen-fabriek, Eindhoven (Holland), is intimately connected with the incandescent