

or more are petrified forests of cone-bearing or "flowering cycads," ancestors of present-day ferns and palms and whose solitary modern-day relative is the rare Chinese maidenhair tree.

The monument was first set aside by act of the Congress in the latter part of the Harding administration, its first inception being due to Dr. Wieland. His first step had been to file on the area under the homestead laws; his filing fees have been returned to him on the surrender of his equity so that Dr. Wieland is virtually the donor of the monument.

The cost of final development, estimated at \$65,000, has thus far prevented the opening of this field botanical museum to the general public. Some excavations were carried on last year by a group of CCC young men under the direction of Dr. Wieland, who found over a ton of specimens. These were exposed to view just as they were left in their last resting place hundreds of centuries ago.

In describing the park Dr. Wieland said:

The site offers a three-fold interest, geologic, chemical and biologic. The Black Hills are a splendidly interesting mountain knot to the geologist. Directly on the Monument and about it he may study, and students after him, the fine stratigraphic problem of the Jurassic-Cretaceous boundary. Not alone the sight-seer, but the more thoughtful student, also will behold the marvelous results of "petrification," whereby plants of faraway dinosaur times may be again reintegrated with no detail left out. There we can see, in gemstone beauty, flowers and foliage and mature seed cones that tell much and leave us to wonder about a course of chemical change that could end in such a record. In fact, unless the chemist can repeat those changes in his laboratory he can not know fuller finality in the formation of the oolites, the cherts and the quartzose rocks generally; and he may even miss some organic relations between iron, calcium and silicon.

I have estimated that adequate excavation on the cycad level, followed by development of material and its housing in a field museum, a scientific shrine, built in utter simplicity and taste to stand a thousand long years, may cost \$65,000. The plan would fixedly be to house and to illustrate and display only the material in situ, so as to reach a sheer poetic simplicity. There would be reproduced in its actual surroundings a landscape of the past which would again become green and move with life as it did so far back in dinosaur times.

When to take up an educational subject of deepest interest must depend firstly on available funds, and those funds must certainly in turn depend on the wealth of a country and the thrift and intelligence of its citizens. In our own country, accordingly, we find it difficult to believe that when it comes to sheer realities, the things that are surely worth while as seen through the years, we may claim either poverty or the inability to act. Or in other words if we fail to do the fine things we'll find our-

selves much poorer. Therefore I urge that the Department of Parks and Monuments neither lose nor delay a single further hour in the development of the Fossil Cycad National Monument.

### CHILD NEUROLOGY RESEARCH

With a grant from the Friedsam Foundation, a special council, with Dr. Bernard Sachs as director, has been formed to stimulate research in child neurology and allied fields. The council will consist of three neuropsychiatrists, in addition to the director, three pediatricians, one orthopedist and two laymen, who will help to decide problems of a social character. The neuropsychiatrists are: Dr. Louis Hausman, of the Cornell Medical Center and Bellevue Hospital; Dr. Foster Kennedy, of Bellevue, and Dr. Frederick Tilney, director of research of the Neurological Institute. The pediatricians are Dr. Stanley Brady, of St. Vincent's Hospital, and Dr. Howard Reid Craig, of the Babies Hospital and the Neurological Institute. The orthopedist is Dr. Lewis Clark Wagner, of the Hospital for the Ruptured and Crippled. The two laymen are William E. Grady, associate superintendent of public schools of New York, and Nathan Straus.

A statement has been made public which reads:

With a grant from the Friedsam Foundation a special council has been formed to stimulate research in child neurology and allied fields, so that physicians and other scientists may contribute to the thorough investigation of the many problems bearing upon the care and cure of those afflicted with any of the nervous and mental disorders from birth through adolescence.

The research work is to be encouraged by stipend, scholarships or otherwise. It is to be national and international in scope. The results of the work will be recorded in volumes to be issued by the council from year to year. It is hoped that the first volume will appear in the winter of 1937.

The trustees of the Friedsam Foundation, of which John S. Burke is president, believe that in helping to develop child neurology research they are promoting the aims of the late Colonel Michael Friedsam, president of B. Altman & Co., who died April 7, 1931, and who was greatly interested in everything pertaining to child health and welfare.

They regard child neurology research as one of the major activities of the foundation and have authorized Dr. Sachs and the council to foster original investigations in that field to the greatest extent for the benefit of medical science and the community at large.

The trustees find that neurology and psychiatry have important relations to the early training of children, to development of character and to general medical and home conditions. They further agree with Dr. Sachs that the problems of child health and welfare may be properly considered to be closely allied fields for investigation.

The work on child neurology research at the Neurological Institute of New York, inaugurated by the Friedsam Foundation in 1934, has been so promising that the

trustees have recognized the wisdom of extending the research beyond the limits of any one institution, city or country.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the convocation of the University of the State of New York on October 15, the honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred on Dr. Albert Einstein, of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. Dr. Einstein was presented by Owen D. Young, a member of the Board of Regents, and the degree was conferred by Dr. Frank P. Graves, president of the university and Commissioner of Education for the State of New York. Dr. Einstein gave an address entitled "Some Thoughts on Education."

At the Founders Day exercises of Lafayette College, the degree of doctor of science was conferred on Dr. Donald B. Prentice, since 1931 president of the Rose Polytechnic Institute at Terre Haute, Ind. Dr. Prentice was formerly head of the department of mechanical engineering and dean at Lafayette College.

DR. WALTER B. CANNON, George Higginson professor of physiology at the Harvard Medical School, has been elected a corresponding member of the National Academy of Medicine of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

THE W. L. SAUNDERS Gold Medal for 1937, conferred for achievement in mining by the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, has been awarded to Erskine Ramsay, of Birmingham, Ala., chairman of the board of the Alabama By-products Corporation. The award is in recognition of his many contributions to the invention and practical application of machines and equipment in bituminous coal mining.

HENRY METCALF HOBART, consulting engineer of the General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y., was awarded on October 19 the Samuel Wylie Miller Memorial Medal at the annual meeting of the American Welding Society in Cleveland, as a "pioneer and leader in a welding research movement which in nineteen years has spread to the far corners of the world and vitally affected industry."

A GOLD MEDAL "For Service to Dahlia" was presented to Dr. Marshall A. Howe, director of the New York Botanical Garden, at the annual dinner of the American Dahlia Society at the Pennsylvania Hotel on September 23. The presentation was made by George W. Fraser, president of the society.

SIR LEONARD HILL has been awarded by the Royal Society of New Zealand the T. K. Sidey Summertime

Memorial Medal and Prize for 1936. This award, which consists of a gold medal and a hundred pounds, is made to the person who in the opinion of the council of the Royal Society of New Zealand has made a valuable contribution to human knowledge by original research into the effect of light and solar radiations on human comfort. The first and only other recipient of the medal is Lord Rutherford.

GENERAL JAN CHRISTIAAN SMUTS, deputy prime minister of the Union of South Africa, has been elected chancellor of the University of Cape Town in succession to the King, who held that office while Prince of Wales. General Smuts was president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1931.

THE New York City Branch of the Society of American Bacteriologists, at a meeting held on October 13, elected the following officers for the year 1937: Dr. Morton C. Kahn, Cornell University Medical College, *chairman*; Dr. Ralph Muckenfuss, Research Laboratories of the Department of Health, *vice-chairman*; Professor E. J. Keegan, St. John's University, Brooklyn, N. Y., *secretary-treasurer*, and Dr. Gustav I. Steffen, New York Hospital, *councilor* to the Society of American Bacteriologists.

DR. A. S. WHEELER, professor of organic chemistry at the University of North Carolina, has retired with the title of Kenan professor emeritus.

DR. WEBSTER G. SIMON, professor of mathematics at Adelbert College and the Graduate School of Western Reserve University, has been elected to the new office of dean of the Faculties of Arts and Sciences for Adelbert and Mather Colleges and the Graduate School of the university. In the absence or disability of the president, he will have power to act in his place for the entire university. Dr. Simon has been a member of the faculty of Western Reserve since 1918 and a full professor since 1926.

DR. CHARLES H. ROGERS, since 1917 head of the department of pharmaceutical chemistry in the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota, has been elected dean of the college, to succeed Dean Frederick J. Wulling, who retired last spring on reaching the age limit.

At Columbia University the following appointments have been made: Roy R. Zipprodt, formerly regional