

drawn and should the necessary funds be obtained, the new quarters would relieve congestion in a large part of the educational buildings on the eastern side of the institute. Attention was called to the need for new biological laboratories and the opportunities that could be realized by an increase in research funds of \$200,000 a year or more.

Dr. Compton also pointed out that the large waiting list is evidence of the need of an additional dormitory unit, which could be immediately filled.

ACQUIREMENT BY HARVARD UNIVERSITY OF A DEPOSIT OF FOSSILS IN NORTHERN FLORIDA

DR. THOMAS BARBOUR, director of the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology, announces that a rich deposit of fossils in Gilchrist County, northern Florida, dating back some 18,000,000 years to the Miocene era, has been purchased by Harvard University for research purposes. The deposit, on a forty-acre farm site, contains the only reasonably complete store of Miocene fossils so far reported in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. In preliminary excavations, Dr. Barbour and members of the museum staff found remains of several primitive horses, camels, dogs and rhinoceros. The deposit is expected to give the first good picture of land-life on the eastern seaboard during the Miocene period. All other eastern Miocene deposits are primarily of marine life.

Dr. Theodore E. White, of the museum staff, will work at the site this winter under a grant from the Milton Fund of Harvard University. Several years of excavation will be required to piece together the picture of the fauna as found in the fossil bones.

Fragments from the deposit have been on exhibit for some years at the museum of the Florida Geological Survey. These were seen several years ago by Dr. Barbour, who, with the aid of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Schevill, of the museum, located the site and made preliminary excavations. Last winter Drs. Barbour and White excavated for a longer period, finding some complete skulls and long bones. The specimens found at the end of the work last winter were better preserved than those found earlier, and it is probable that further digging will disclose material still better preserved.

EQUINE ENCEPHALOMYELITIS AND MOSQUITOES

EVIDENCE as to the guilt or innocence of mosquitoes in transmitting equine encephalomyelitis will be analyzed at the eleventh annual Conference of Mosquito Abatement Officials in California, to be held at the University of California at Berkeley, on December 16.

Speakers and their subjects, announced by S. F. Dommes, Jr., secretary, are as follows:

Epidemiology and Distribution of Human Cases, Dr. H. L. Wynns, chief, Bureau of Epidemiology, California State Department of Public Health.

Distribution of Cases in Horses and the Economic Importance of Equine Encephalomyelitis in Horses, Dr. C. U. Duckworth, administrator, Division of Animal Industry, California State Department of Agriculture.

Relationship of Distribution of Cases and Mosquitoes, Thomas H. G. Aitken, University of California.

Investigations of Equine Encephalomyelitis in Kern County, Dr. W. C. Buss, epidemiologist, Kern County Health Department.

Present Information on Experimental Transmission of Equine Encephalomyelitis by Mosquitoes, Dr. Malcolm H. Merrill, California State Department of Public Health.

Professor W. B. Herms, head of the Division of Entomology and Parasitology of the University of California, will introduce the symposium, and a summary of the discussion is to be presented by Dr. Bertram P. Brown, director of the California State Department of Public Health.

Representatives from twenty-five mosquito abatement districts and from health departments and universities in California ordinarily attend the conference. This year, invitations have also been sent to state universities and health departments in Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico.

Methods of organizing mosquito abatement districts, experiences in mosquito control as a health department function and various operating problems will also be considered at the conference. William Reeves, a graduate entomologist at the University of California, will report on research on the Pacific Coast "tree-hole" mosquito, *Aedes varipalpus*.

THE ROLE OF DENTISTS IN NATIONAL DEFENSE

THE American Dental Association at its recent meeting in Cleveland used as a general theme the national defense and the special role of the dental profession in it. A nation-wide dental health census, conducted by the Committee on Economics, indicated that "the nation, from a dental standpoint, is woefully unprepared to meet the exacting requirements in industry and the military services in a time of possible national emergency." Although the data from this survey have not been entirely worked over, Dr. R. M. Walls, chairman of the Committee on Economics, told the House of Delegates of the association that "after careful consideration of the figures now available, we must face the fact that an immediate effort must be made by dentistry to meet a situation which may have a serious effect on the whole defense program."

Because of the national condition thus indicated, and drawing on experience in the last war concerning

dental health in the army and in industry, the American Dental Association adopted a three-point program to mobilize America's dental resources for national defense as follows:

(1) Sending to every registered dentist in the nation a questionnaire giving complete information on the dental personnel available for military purposes and for civilian needs.

(2) Launching a program for cooperation with the Surgeon-General of the Army and Navy to reduce the percentage of rejections for dental defects among volunteers and prospective draftees under the conscription law.

(3) Setting in motion a special education program for dentists by distributing courses in military dentistry now under preparation by the War Department.

MEMORIALS

EXERCISES in honor of the centennial of the death of Constantine Rafinesque were held at Transylvania College, on October 30. An address was given before the student convocation by Dr. Francis W. Pennell, of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, and at the luncheon by Dr. A. E. Emerson, of the University of Chicago, who spoke on "The Modern Naturalist." In the afternoon there was a symposium entitled "Rafinesque's Interests—a Century Later," at which Dr. W. D. Funkhouser, of the University of Kentucky, spoke on "Archeology in Kentucky"; Dr. W. E. Ricker, of Indiana University, on "Research in the Biology of Fish" and Dr. W. M. Clay, of the University of Louisville, on "Herpetology." At the dinner addresses were given on "The Life and Works of Rafinesque" by Dr. Francis W. Pennell, and on "Constantine Rafinesque, the Man," by Dr. L. R. Dingus. The remains of Rafinesque were removed from Philadelphia in 1923 and were placed in a crypt on the campus of Transylvania College. The college has in its possession a collection of the manuscripts, books and letters, and two of the three known portraits of Rafinesque.

WASHINGTON AND JEFFERSON COLLEGE, Washington, Pa., dedicated on October 26 a new building for chemistry to the memory of Dr. Jesse W. Lazear, who died in Cuba in 1900 of yellow fever while serving as a member of the Yellow Fever Commission of the U. S. Army. Dr. Lazear was an alumnus of the college. John R. Kissinger, Huntington, Ind., and John J. Moran, Habana, Cuba, two of the group of soldiers who allowed themselves to be bitten by mosquitoes during the investigation, were guests at the dedication ceremonies. At a banquet in the evening Dr. Philip S. Hench, of Rochester, Minn., made an address on the work of the Yellow Fever Commission. The Jesse W. Lazear Chemistry Hall is one of three buildings dedicated. One of these was named in honor of the late Dr. Edwin Linton, for many years professor of biology and geology at Washington and Jefferson College.

THE "Cradle of Dental Education in America" will be dedicated on November 24 by the Ohio State Dental Society at Bainbridge. This dental monument is a small brick building which served as the office of Dr. John Harris from 1825 to 1850. It has been purchased and restored by the society and will be maintained as a permanent museum and memorial. Addresses will be given at the dedication by Dr. B. W. Weinberger, Dr. Arthur H. Merritt and Dr. J. Martin Fleming. Dr. Harris served as preceptor to a group of students, several of whom later became prominent in dental education and practice. Dr. Chapin A. Harris received his dental training at the Ohio State University and then went to Baltimore. There he and Dr. Horace Hayden founded, in 1840, the first chartered dental college in the world, the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery. Dr. James Taylor also secured his dental training under Dr. John Harris and in 1845 founded the second dental college. This was the Cincinnati College of Dental Surgery whose influence was, perhaps because of its central location, more far-reaching than that of the Baltimore School.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. HENRY E. SIGERIST, professor of the history of medicine and director of the Institute of the History of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and Dr. Esmond R. Long, professor of pathology at the University of Pennsylvania and director of the Henry Phipps Institute, have been elected honorary members of the athenaeum of the chair of the history of medicine in Buenos Aires.

ON the occasion of the installation of President Kenneth Irving Brown at Denison University on October 18, the degree of doctor of science was conferred on Daniel Sheets Dye, who has been head of the de-

partment of science at Union University, Chengtu, West China, since 1910.

CITATIONS of merit have been awarded by the Park Association of New York City for "outstanding service" to the parks of the city. The nine awards made included one to Dr. W. Reid Blair, who retired as director of the New York Zoological Park last May. Dr. Blair joined the staff of the park in 1902, and was appointed director in 1926. The citation said that for thirty-eight years he had carried out his work at the New York Zoological Park with "untiring zeal and devotion."