

sity, was elected President for the ensuing year. The Council's report, which was adopted, stated that the number of members on the register was 3,312 compared with 3,185 at the last annual meeting. The President, in the course of his address, dealt with the rapid exhaustion of British coalfields and the serious increase of smoke pollution. The remedies were broadly divided into two classes: first, improved appliances for the combustion of raw coal and distribution of the air supply in furnaces; and, secondly, the transformation of the raw coal into smokeless fuel by preliminary treatment. The effects of the natural development of certain industries on the markets for by-products were next considered. It was pointed out that if any considerable part of the 137 million tons of coal which is at present burned in the raw condition were to be converted into gas, coke and ammonia an altogether new condition of things would arise which would need to be foreseen and provided for. A careful study of the whole subject has led to the conclusion that the natural outlet for the coke and pitch would be found in the manufacture of fuel briquettes, and the President advocated the turning of the very best technical skill to the perfecting of the manufacture. He believed that with skill and enterprise it would be possible to make briquettes exactly suited for every purpose from boiler firing to domestic cooking. As a means of bringing all of the different interests which are concerned in this matter into line, it was suggested that the Society might arrange for the holding of a conference on the subject of fuel and smoke, at which the leading technical societies, as well as the actual industries concerned, should be fully represented.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

O. HÖLTERHOFF, a banker of Honnet, has bequeathed his property valued at about 1,000,000 Marks to the University at Bonn.

MRS. JOHN L. NEWBERRY, of Detroit, Mich., has given to Western Reserve University, Cleveland, O., \$2,500 to found the Handy philosophical prizes, in honor of her father, Mr. J. P. Handy, of Cleveland.

PROFESSOR BENJAMIN IDE WHEELER, of Cornell University, has accepted the presidency of the University of California.

MR. E. A. MINCHIN, Fellow of Merton College, Oxford University, has been elected to the Jodrell professorship of zoology in University College, London, in succession to Professor W. F. R. Weldon, who, it will be remembered, was recently called to Oxford.

DR. A. FICK, professor of physiology at Würzburg, has retired. The chair was offered to Professor W. Biedermann, but he has refused to leave Jena.

DR. B. PETER has been made associate professor of astronomy at Leipzig and sub-director of the observatory.

DR. A. PHILIPPSON, geography, and Dr. K. Mönnichmeyer, astronomy, docents at Bonn, have been made titular professors.

AN associate professorship for physical anthropology has been established at Zurich and filled by the election of Dr. R. Martin.

At the University of Paris courses have been authorized by M. Guignard on the application of chemistry to brewing and distilling; by M. Loisel on comparative embryology, and by M. Martel on speleology or subterranean geography.

THERE are during the present summer semester 4,997 students matriculated at the University of Berlin, which is an increase of 349 as compared with last year. There are 655 foreigners.

ACCORDING to the *Hochschul-Nachrichten* 22% of the professors in the German universities are engaged in lecturing or laboratory supervision 2 to 6 hours a week and 51% from 7 to 12 hours. Of the associate professors 60% are engaged from 2 to 6 hours per week and of the privatdocents 82%. Only 4% of all privatdocents are engaged in lecturing or laboratory supervision more than 12 hours a week. The leisure, accompanied it must be admitted by poverty, of the German associate professors and docents explains in large measure the amount of research work accomplished in German universities.