

the joint auspices of the State Geological Survey and the Coast and Geodetic Survey. Professor Harris is arranging to have the field work begin soon after the Christmas holidays. It will be the endeavor to complete the greater part of the work by June 1, 1903. Mr. Edwin Smith will represent the Coast and Geodetic Survey on this important work. Louisiana is the third state within recent years to avail itself of the unrivaled facilities and instrumental equipment of the Coast and Geodetic Survey for rapid and successful magnetic work.

Dr. L. A. Bauer, during his recent inspection tour of two months covering the region from the north shore of Lake Superior to the southern part of Texas, besides visiting the various magnetic parties working in that region, determined the dip at a number of stations with two totally different instruments, the one a French dip circle and the other a Lloyd-Creak dip circle primarily intended for observations at sea. With the latter dip circle he likewise determined the total magnetic intensity, and multiplying the value thus obtained by the cosine of the dip the horizontal intensity was obtained. Next the horizontal intensity was observed directly with a French magnetometer. With the same instruments comparisons were made with the instruments of each party visited. Thus an interesting series of observations has resulted serving to test the constancy of dip circle standardizations for the entire range of dip embraced in the United States, and giving the means of determining the relative accuracy of field intensity determinations by two totally different methods and with two greatly differing instruments.

The Coast and Geodetic Survey is preparing to make magnetic observations (declination, dip and intensity) on board the *Blake*, an entirely wooden vessel, which is to sail for Porto Rico soon after January 1. The necessary instruments have been secured and are now being installed in the ship. The dip circle—a greatly improved form of the Fox dip circle, known as the Lloyd-Creak dip circle, with which the dip and total intensity observations will be made, is similar to the

instruments supplied to the English Antarctic ship, the *Discovery*, and to the German Antarctic ship, the *Gauss*.

#### THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.\*

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for the Rhodes scholars to take up their residence in Oxford at the earliest possible date. Mr. G. R. Parkin, LL.D., Principal of Upper Canada College, Toronto, the organizing agent for the trustees of the Rhodes scholarships, is on a visit to Oxford on behalf of the various countries interested, and, after consultation with the university and college authorities, will frame for the approval of the trustees a scheme for the election of the scholars. As the bequest of Mr. Rhodes suggests that the scholars shall come into residence at the various colleges and shall pursue a three year's course, it is all important that a clear understanding of the attitude of the university and of the individual colleges towards the scholars thus to be elected should be ascertained as a necessary preliminary to Mr. Parkin's work abroad. This is the object of his visit to Oxford. Acting on the advice of the vice-chancellor and a committee of the Hebdomadal Council, Mr. Parkin addressed a series of questions to various heads of colleges in order that the matter might be formally brought under the consideration of the respective societies. The questions were as under:

1. Is your college willing to receive each year's number of the Rhodes scholars, and, if so, how many?

2. What are the conditions of entrance upon which your college would insist? Would they necessarily include any examination of your own?

3. Would you be able to give any Rhodes scholars accepted by you rooms in the college buildings from the time of their entrance and for how long?

4. At what date in each year would you require notification of the election of scholars in order that rooms may be assigned them and arrangements made for their entrance.

5. Would you wish scholars accepted by you to come under ordinary undergraduate conditions as to age and attainments, or would you prefer men prepared to take advanced or post-graduate work?

\* From the London *Times*.

6. Have you any suggestions to make from your college point of view likely to be helpful to the trustees in their endeavor to make the bequest of Mr. Rhodes most effective?

The answers to the questions will be submitted to the trustees for their consideration. The first year the bequest comes into operation there will be elected probably between 70 and 75 scholars, the same number for the second year, and for the third year about 30, the numbers continuing thereafter from year to year in about the same proportion. The bulk of the replies to the questions have yet to be received, as the queries have not at present been formally submitted to the college meetings, but the reception which Mr. Parkin has met with at the hands of the heads of colleges has been most gratifying.

In the course of a statement made yesterday Mr. Parkin said: "What has impressed me greatly since I have been in Oxford is the exceedingly hearty and interested way in which all the colleges have discussed the best plan of working the Rhodes scholars into the university system. A universal feeling prevails that the conception of Rhodes was a splendid one, has in it more possibilities in the future, and is likely to make a profound impression on the English-speaking world. It is also very generally felt, I think, that any failure to make a complete success of this great thought of Mr. Rhodes would be a check to all giving on a grand scale for a long time to come. The heads of colleges and fellows I have found everywhere ready to cooperate with the Rhodes trustees in making this bequest most effective. We are only gradually getting answers to the questions which have been propounded to the various colleges, but all the replies that have come in are highly favorable. According to their size, each of the colleges seems prepared to take from two to five of the Rhodes scholars every year. This would give to the smaller colleges six in all for the three years' scholarship, and to the larger colleges about fifteen, when the plan is in full operation. As the holders of these scholarships will be very carefully selected from each of the colonies and from each state of the American Union, I have every reason to think that a high average of

man will be obtained—almost certainly a serious, earnest man, but interested in college athletics and all the best sides of college life, in accordance with the ideas that Mr. Rhodes had about the selection of such candidates. The interest taken in the matter in all parts of the world is illustrated by the flood of correspondence which has been poured in upon me as representing the trustees, upon the vice-chancellor and everybody who could be supposed to have any connection with the scheme."

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has consented to act as honorary president of the local committee for the Washington meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

THE trustees of the Carnegie Institution held their first annual meeting in Washington on November 25. The positive action taken consisted in the appropriation of \$200,000 for grants for research, \$40,000 for publication, \$50,000 for administrative expenses, and \$100,000 to be placed in a reserve fund. All specific requests for aid were referred back to the executive committee for action. The Year Book, now in course of preparation, will contain the reports of the various committees and other material that will be of general interest.

EMPEROR WILLIAM in the farewell audience of Ambassador White presented him with the Gold Medal of the empire for science and art, which is given once a year to a person, either a German or a foreigner, who, in the opinion of the government, is best entitled to it.

LORD REAY, chairman of the London school board since 1897, and president of the Royal Asiatic Society and of University College, London, has been elected first president of the British Academy.

MR. FRANCIS GALTON has been elected an honorary fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

DR. M. TREUB, director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Buitenzorg, Java, is at present in the United States.

DR. JUAN GUITÉRAS and Dr. Carlos Finley will represent Cuba at the sanitary congress to be held in Washington in December.