

The mystery consists in placing the finger over the upper hole and air channel exactly in the correct place. Usually a piece of cloth, skin, etc., is tied around the cane at this point.

The National Museum has specimens of this instrument from the following tribes, viz., Apaches, Cocopas, Mohaves, Papagos, Pimas, Rees and Shoshones. Other examples have a tube with septum made by splitting a cylinder, excavating the halves and gluing them together.

I had supposed until recently that this method of constructing the flageolet was not to be found outside of North America. I have never read a description of this instrument except from travelers in North America. But recently in a collection of specimens made by Dr. W. L. Abbott, at Siaba Bay, Island of Nias, off the west coast of Sumatra, I find a specimen made in the manner stated above except that in the place of a septum the bore of the cane is plugged with wax. The covering of the upper hole and air channel is a long leaf wrapped around and protected by a bandage of cotton sheeting.

It has seven finger holes and a thumb hole. Its Malay name is Siro'oni.

E. H. HAWLEY.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL EXAMINATIONS.

THE United States Civil Service Commission invites special attention to the examinations which will be held, beginning October 21, 1903, at various places throughout the United States, for the following-named positions:

Acting assistant-surgeon, Public Health and Marine Hospital Service.

Aid, Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Assistant examiner, Patent Office.

Assistant (scientific), Department of Agriculture.

Bookkeeper, Departmental Service.

Civil and electrical engineer, Departmental Service.

Civil and electrical engineer, Philippine Service.

Civil engineer and draftsman.

Computer:

Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Nautical Almanac Office.

Naval Observatory.

Deck officer, Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Draftsman:

Architectural.

Copyist, topographic.

Junior architectural.

Topographic, Land Office Service.

Electrical engineer and draftsman.

Engineering and hydrographic aid.

Farmer—industrial teacher.

Farmer—industrial teacher with a knowledge of irrigation.

Fish culturist.

Irrigation engineer.

Kindergarten teacher.

Manual training teacher.

Matron — seamstress — female industrial teacher.

Meat inspector.

Mechanical and electrical engineer.

Observer.

Pharmacist, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.

Physician, Indian Service.

Superintendent of construction.

Teacher, Indian Service.

Trained nurse, Indian Service.

Trained nurse, Philippine Service.

As the demand for persons with these qualifications is greater than the present supply, the Commission invites all persons who are qualified to take these examinations, as they offer an excellent opportunity to enter the Federal service, with good prospect for advancement. Information concerning the character of these examinations, the required qualification, age limits, salaries at which appointments are made, etc., may be found in the Manual of Examinations revised to July 1, 1903.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. H. W. WILEY, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, has returned from Europe, where he has been studying the question of enforcing the law in regard to the exclusion of adulterated and falsely labeled food.