stimulation of greater interest in this problem. The speakers will be engineers and public officials of prominence and information regarding the practical phases of drainage will be made available to those in attendance. The organization and financing of drainage districts, the surveying of drainage areas, the design of systems and improved methods of construction are among the subjects to be considered. The meeting will be in charge of the department of civil engineering, college of engineering, Urbana, Illinois.

"ASPECTS of Modern Science" is the general subject of a series of lectures being given by members of the faculties of the University of Chicago, at the North Side Center of the University Lecture Association of Chicago. The series was opened on February 19 by Professor Robert A. Millikan, of the department of physics, who spoke on "Modern Views of Electricity." On the evening of February 26, Associate Professor William Draper Harkins, of the department of chemistry, discussed the subject of "Radium, the Breaking Up of Atoms, and the Evolution of the Elements." On March 5, Professor John Merle Coulter, head of the department of botany, will lecture on "The Revolution in Agriculture," showing how the investigations of heredity and of the soil have revolutionized agricultural practise and bid fair to solve the pressing problem of food production. On March 12, Associate Professor Walter Sheldon Tower, of the department of geography, will discuss "The Meaning of Modern Geography," and, on March 19, Director Edwin Brant Frost, of the Yerkes Observatory, will present some of the "Revelations of the Spectroscope." The closing lecture, "The New Geology," on March 26, will be given by Dean Rollin D. Salisbury, of the Ogden Graduate School of Science, who will present some of the newer theories concerning the earth's history, especially its origin and its age.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT WILSON signed, on February 23, the Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Bill, which provides large funds for federal aid to the states for the teaching of agriculture, trade, industries and home economics.

MR. AND MRS. MAX EPSTEIN, of Chicago, have contributed to the medical school enterprise of the University of Chicago $100,000 to erect and furnish the equipment for a university dispensary. This will provide a structure in which will be reception rooms, rooms for diagnosis and treatment, rooms for hospital and dispensary social service work and workers both professional and volunteer.

MR. FRANK G. LOGAN, of Chicago, has given to the University of Chicago a fund providing an income of $3,000 a year for three research fellowships, one in pathology and bacteriology, one in medicine and one in surgery.

AT a recent meeting of the faculty of the Long Island College Hospital it was voted to admit women students on the same terms as men.

IT is stated in *Nature* that Mr. E. J. C. Rennie, son of Professor Rennie, of the University of Adelaide, has been appointed acting lecturer in electrical engineering in the University of Melbourne. He will take the place of Mr. E. B. Brown, who is about to engage in munition work in England.

DR. C. E. MOSS, of the University of Cambridge, has been appointed professor of botany in the South African School of Mines and Technology, Johannesburg.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

PHOSPHATE EXPERIMENTS

IN SCIENCE, January 5, 1917, pages 18 and 19, Professor C. A. Mooers writes as follows concerning the results of Tennessee experiments with different phosphates:

> Neither now nor in the past have these results allowed us to advocate, as intimated by Dr. Hopkins, the use of unacidulated bone meal. From the standpoint of economy, the data obtained here have been decidedly in favor of acid phosphate. In Dr. Hopkins's article omission was made of the fact that in the table referred to—Bulletin 90, p. 89, Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station—every $1.00 invested in acid phosphate gave on the average a calculated profit of $4.28 where the