

sota, 20; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 21; Montana, 3; Nebraska, 3; Nevada, 1; New Hampshire, 16; New Jersey, 133; New Mexico, 0; New York (including 450 from New York City), 703; North Carolina, 19; North Dakota, 4; Ohio, 96; Oklahoma, 0; Oregon, 2; Pennsylvania, 170; Rhode Island, 15; South Carolina, 8; South Dakota, 2; Tennessee, 12; Texas, 15; Utah, 1; Vermont, 6; Virginia, 27; Washington, 1; West Virginia, 10; Wisconsin, 23; Wyoming, 5; Germany, 1; England, 1; France, 1; Canada, 35; Argentina, 2; Brazil, 1; Japan, 2; Switzerland, 2; Hawaii, 1.

THE Earl of Derby, British secretary of state for war, in moving recently in the House of Lords the second reading of the bill to review military exemptions, stated that in the battle of the Somme alone over 400 doctors had been either killed or wounded, and that at the present time the army was, if not critically, at least lamentably, short of medical men.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association the quota necessary to fill the present vacancies and requirements of the Army Medical Corps will be drawn from among those who graduated in 1912 to 1916. The total number that would be included in such a list would be approximately 19,000. The list of graduates in the five years mentioned, and also for 1917, is as follows:

| MEDICAL COLLEGE GRADUATES | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|
| From Colleges in Class | | | | |
| | A | B | C | Totals |
| 1912 | 2,790 | 1,063 | 629 | 4,482 |
| 1913 | 2,539 | 1,050 | 392 | 3,981 |
| 1914 | 2,626 | 686 | 282 | 3,594 |
| 1915 | 2,629 | 688 | 219 | 3,536 |
| 1916 | 2,630 | 695 | 193 | 3,518 |
| 1917 ¹ | 2,641 | 625 | 101 | 3,367 |
| Totals .. | 15,855 | 4,807 | 1,816 | 22,478 |

As has been noted, there is an immediate need of additional physicians for the medical corps of the army, and for the medical corps of the navy. For these positions preference will be given to young physicians. The Army Medical Corps insists on a year's internship in

¹ Seniors.

a hospital after graduation; the Navy, however, is not now insisting on this, but is recognizing 1917 graduates.

RESEARCH work in physics during the summer has of recent years grown to such proportions at Cornell that the physical laboratory is a busier place in June, July and August than during the term. To assist and encourage these workers, not by the offering of courses of instruction, but rather by occasional advice and council, arrangements have been made to have a member of the staff regularly in residence during this period who shall have no other duties. This work is entirely independent of the summer session. The arrangement is especially intended for former graduates who desire to return for a summer of investigation and for other working physicists. The member of staff in residence this summer will be Professor E. L. Nichols.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

By the will of the late John G. Johnson, one of the most noted lawyers in America, the University of Pennsylvania will ultimately receive a very large bequest; the exact amount can not now be stated, but it is estimated at from five to ten million dollars.

THE Minnesota legislature which adjourned on April 19, appropriated for the University of Minnesota for the biennium 1917-19, a total of \$3,735,500. This is an increase of \$435,550 over the current appropriations. The sum made available for buildings and equipment is less than for 1915-17, but the maintenance funds have been increased by \$225,000 per annum, or \$450,000 for the biennium.

THE University of Washington will have from the legislature and from other sources about eight hundred thousand dollars a year during the next two years.

DR. FREDERICK C. FERRY, dean of Williams College, has been elected president of Hamilton College.

DR. ALEXANDER PETRUNKEVITCH, assistant professor of zoology at Yale University, has

been elected full professor of zoology in the Scientific School.

THE following promotions have been made in the department of zoology at the University of California: Associate Professor S. J. Holmes to a professorship; Assistant Professors J. F. Daniel and Joseph Grinnell to associate professorships.

DR. GEORGE R. WELLS, associate professor of psychology in Oberlin College, has been appointed to a new professorship in psychology in the Ohio Wesleyan University, and will assume his duties in September. A psychological laboratory, housed in a separate building, has been provided and is being equipped at the latter institution.

M. P. MARIE, professor of pathologic anatomy at the University of Paris, has been appointed to the chair of diseases of the nervous system, to succeed the late Professor Dejerine. M. Letulle, hitherto professor of the history of medicine, has been given the chair of pathologic anatomy.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

WANT OF ADAPTATION TO THE TIME OF THE PRINTING PRESS

IF the printing press is recognized as the most important instrument for the diffusion of knowledge, the advancement of science requires that it should be used with a precision like that shown in the use of the microscope or in the application of statistical methods.

It seems that this want of adaptation is shown in lack of adequate provision for, and in the common method of, the publication of scientific literature. Gifts to local establishments, in spite of their great value, seem silly compared with a proper endowment for the publication and distribution of scientific separates.

All scientific articles should be printed and sold separately, so that a student could subscribe for the literature of a certain subject. This would not prevent any one from binding together any papers he wished. Scientific publication is in a bad way, if it must be provided for by requiring one to pay for matter one does

not need, and which, as far as one is concerned, is not worth shelf room. I am interested in literature relating to certain bees, but that does not incline me to pay for descriptions of *Sarcophagidæ* which take up eight pages for one species. In the library of the Missouri Botanical Garden I could not find papers by one author because the transactions in which they were printed did not contain enough botanical literature to justify purchase by that institution.

A magazine publishing transient articles is good enough, but one publishing important contributions to science in a various mixture is more or less of a burial place for such literature, whether one considers the persons the authors are trying to reach or those desiring to see the articles. That his writings should reach every one who is interested in them, or would profit by them, is as important for an author as it is for the student to see the writings in which he is interested—and the interests of both are in line with the advancement of science.

That the publishing of heterogeneous articles in journals is objectionable is shown by the practise of printing author's separates. But these are usually unsatisfactorily distributed and soon exhausted. The printing of separates operates against the interests of the journal when a writer avoids subscribing for it on the expectation of receiving the separates from their authors. For the sake of students a discriminative author may be inclined to publish all of his papers on a given subject in the same journal, but the journal may prefer a variety of papers in order to increase its subscription list. So, also, a paper which has some body to it is broken into monthly parts to make room for articles on different subjects. It is a question whether the magazines do not encourage fragmentary and desultory methods of investigation and publication.

On account of objection to too many, or too long, papers on the same subject, or simply inadequate provisions for publication, descriptions of American insects are often published in foreign journals—a practise clearly opposed to the interests of science. However, some au-