

DR. NATHAN SMITH DAVIS, of Chicago, formerly dean of the college of medicine, Northwestern University, died on December 22, at Pasadena, at the age of sixty-two years.

At the annual meeting of the Carnegie Institution of Washington the Station for Experimental Evolution and the Eugenics Record Office at Cold Spring Harbor, without loss of their identity were, for administrative purposes, combined into the Department of Genetics, with C. B. Davenport, director of the department, Dr. C. C. Little assistant director for the Station, and Dr. H. H. Laughlin assistant director for the office. Professor Harold D. Fish, now of the University of Pittsburgh, was reappointed research associate of the department of genetics.

W. L. HARDING, governor of Iowa, in cooperation with Honorable J. B. Payne, Secretary of Interior, called a National Conference on Parks in Des Moines, Iowa, to be held January 10, 11 and 12. An unusually strong program was presented relative to national parks, state parks and municipal parks.

THE annual meeting of the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association was held at Columbia University, New York City, on December 28, 29 and 30. The address of the president, Professor R. B. Perry, of Harvard University, on "The appeal to reason," was given at the annual dinner on the evening of December 29.

THE fifth annual meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists will be held at Tulsa, Oklahoma, March 17-19, 1921. Since the organization of the association, at Tulsa, in 1917, the membership has grown from less than a hundred members to almost six hundred. The meeting last year was held at Dallas, Texas. The present officers are: *President*, Wallace E. Pratt, Houston, Texas; *Vice-president*, Alex W. McCoy, Bartlesville, Oklahoma; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Charles E. Docker, Norman, Oklahoma; *Editor*, Raymond G. Moore, Lawrence, Kansas. Prominent geologists from all parts of the United States have signified their intention of attending the meet-

ing, and business of vital importance will be transacted.

THE National Research Council has available for free distribution a few copies of its Bulletin No. 5, "The Quantum Theory," by Dr. E. P. Adams, Princeton. This bulletin is a digest of the large number of highly technical mathematical-physical papers which appeared shortly before and during the war period, many of which have not been readily accessible to American physicists and mathematicians. Copies of the bulletin have already been sent to all regular members of the American Physical Society and to a selected number of mathematicians and astronomers.

THE Rockefeller Foundation has given to France complete control over the elaborate antituberculosis organization established in the department of Eure-et-Loir at a cost of 4,000,000 francs. The organization consists of twenty-four dispensaries, four complete isolation services, a departmental sanatorium and laboratory. The system will serve as a model for similar organizations to be established by the government throughout the country. The Rockefeller Foundation is now assisting in the antituberculosis campaign in thirty-eight of the eighty-seven departments and it is expected that this work will be continued for two years more.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE will receive a bequest of \$250,000 under the will of Sanford H. Steele, to erect a memorial to his brother, Benjamin Hinman Steele, of the class of 1857, for instruction and research in chemistry.

THE Yale Corporation meeting on January 8 again postponed the election of a president to succeed Dr. Arthur T. Hadley.

TRUSTEES of the Connecticut Agricultural College have voted to ask the incoming State Legislature to appropriate \$625,000, of which \$400,000 is wanted to erect a new science building for the chemistry, botany, physics and bacteriological departments. Plans for

the building call for a three-story brick and limestone structure, 40 by 180 feet. In addition to this special appropriation, the legislature will be asked to increase the regular state biennial appropriation from \$150,000 to about \$225,000, to help meet increased costs.

DR. HENRY CUTHBERT BAZETT has been appointed professor of physiology in the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania to succeed Dr. Henry T. Reichert, who retired last year. Dr. Bazett is the Cheselden Welsh lecturer of clinical physiology at Oxford, England, and has been connected with St. Thomas' Medical School.

DR. S. A. MAHOOD, who has been in charge of investigations on wood cellulose and essential oils at the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., for the past three years, has become associate professor in charge of organic chemistry at Tulane University.

DR. KENNETH D. BLACKFAN, associate professor of pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, has been appointed to the professorship of pediatrics at the Medical College of the University of Cincinnati.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

LEUCOCHLORIDIUM IN AMERICA

SINCE I published the description of *Leucochloridium problematicum*,¹ Dr. H. A. Pilsbry has very kindly called by attention to three articles which deal with members of this genus. All of these are works on conchology and are merely incidental to descriptions of certain snails, yet they are interesting since they show that collectors of mussels were more or less familiar with the parasite before parasitologists had studied it in America.

The first article is that of Dall,² who writes:

A singular sausage-shaped parasite, of which one end is attenuated into a slender tube, is

¹ Magath, T. B., "*Leucochloridium problematicum* N. sp.," *Jour. Parasit.*, 1920, VI., 105-115.

² Dall, W. H., "Instructions for Collecting Mollusks and Other Useful Hints for the Conchologist," U. S. National Museum, Bull. 39, Part G, 1892, p. 10.

found in *Succinea*. The soft parts of the snail thus affected are much distorted. The parasite is one phase of a Distome or fluke-worm, and is of a dark brown color and over an inch in length. It is known as *Leucochloridium americanum* Dall. An analogous species has been described from French *Succineas*, which is of a mottled green. This parasite attains its development in the intestines of thrushes which feed on *Succinea*, and may perhaps be fatal to these birds.

Bryant Walker³ refers to a *Leucochloridium* species as follows:

S. ovalis Gld. Abundant everywhere. This species is occasionally infested by a species of *Leucochloridium* similar to the *L. paradoxum* Carus, found in the *S. putris* L. of Europe and figured by Baudon in *Jour. de Conch.*, V., 27, Pl. X., Fig. 6. In the same journal (V. 28, p. 205) is published a note from the late Thomas Bland, recording a similar occurrence in a specimen of *S. obliqua* Say.

Finally Hanham⁴ states:

Succinea obliqua Say (St. Charles River). . . . In cleaning some of these shells taken on November 8, 1891, a few of the finest living specimens contained peculiar parasite, reference to which is made by Dr. Dall in his useful pamphlet "Instructions for Collecting Mollusks, etc.," (*Leucochloridium*).

Since Dall gave the specimen a name some consideration of it is necessary. It is of course impossible to identify the worm since he did not describe it. The sporocyst was evidently more than one inch in length. The only other descriptive statement is that it "is of a dark brown color." If one is to construe this expression to mean that the sporocyst is solid brown, it is certainly not *Leucochloridium problematicum* Magath. From the text it seems to me one can not assume anything else.

It is interesting to note that all early references to the finding of the parasite in Amer-

³ Walker, B., "The Shell-bearing Mollusca of Michigan," *Nautilus*, 1892, VI., 18.

species as follows:

⁴ Hanham, A. W., "Notes on the Land Shells of Quebec City and District," *Nautilus*, 1897, X., 102.