

ON May 19 the advisory committee, appointed by the secretary of agriculture to guide the activities of the Lake States Forest Experiment Station, met in Duluth to consider the problems confronting timberland owners in the three Lake States and to pass upon the program of investigations proposed for the coming year.

As a part of a comprehensive plan to improve the industries of Cincinnati, the Commercial Club of Cincinnati is financing a scientific study of raw materials in Ohio and other states which may be commercially tributary. The work is to be done in the University of Cincinnati, largely by the staff of the department of geology and geography, suitably increased for this purpose. After collecting available data, supplementary field work will be necessary. Provision is also made for technological work. The work will continue several years and will cost at least \$50,000.

### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

HARVARD UNIVERSITY has been given \$200,000 for the construction of a new administration building, by Arthur Lehman, a New York banker. In addition it is announced that a large part of the new endowment fund has been raised. Of the \$3,000,000 allotted to the division of chemistry, \$2,080,000 has been specifically donated, and of the \$2,000,000 desired for the division of fine arts, \$1,145,000 has already been obtained.

THE Rockefeller Foundation has made a grant of \$500,000 to the Medical Faculty of McGill University. Dr. Jonathan C. Meakins, Christison professor of therapeutics and professor of clinical medicine at Edinburgh University, has been appointed director of the medical clinic to be established in the Royal Victoria Hospital and he will also be professor of medicine and director of the department of medicine of McGill University.

DEAN EDWARD MORGAN LEWIS has been elected acting president of Massachusetts Agricultural College to take the place of Kenyon L. Butterfield, who has resigned to become president of the Michigan Agricultural College.

PROFESSOR G. D. BIRKHOFF, of Harvard University, will be exchange professor at Pomona, Colorado and Grinnell Colleges during the first half of the academic year 1924-25.

DR. HERBERT W. ROGERS, at present engaged in research work for the National Research Council at the University of Minnesota, has been appointed associate professor of psychology at the University of Vermont.

DR. THOMAS B. HOLLOWAY has been elected professor of ophthalmology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, to succeed Dr. George E. de Schweinitz.

AT the University of Arizona Dr. Paul S. Burgess, formerly with the Rhode Island Experiment Station, has been appointed professor of agricultural chemistry, and John B. Cunningham, formerly professor of metallurgy and head of the department of metallurgy at the Michigan School of Mines, has been appointed professor of metallurgy.

DR. ALBERT H. BYFIELD has resigned from the position of professor of pediatrics in the school of medicine of the University of Iowa, and is planning to spend the coming year in study abroad.

THE University of Cincinnati announces the appointment of Charles H. Behre, Jr., formerly instructor in geology at Lehigh University, to the position of assistant professor in the department of geology and geography. His duties will include much of the work in connection with the recently instituted survey of raw materials in the region commercially tributary to Cincinnati, together with some teaching in the university. Dr. Geoffrey Gilbert, formerly assistant in the department of geology at Harvard University, has been appointed to fill the position at Lehigh University vacated by Mr. Behre.

### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

#### THE BONES OF RAFINESQUE

THE name of Constantine Rafinesque is well known to all students of natural history in America. He was born in Constantinople in 1785, of a French father and German mother (Schmaltz). He wrote on the fishes and plants of Sicily. Coming to America in 1802, he wandered widely on foot in Kentucky and neighboring states, loading his "pack under which a pedlar might groan" with plants and shells, and his notebooks with records of fishes and birds, accompanied by execrable drawings, from which he too often drew up his descriptions. A man of great industry, rare insight, wide-ranging knowledge and interest, and distressingly careless as to details. One of the early apostles of evolution, he found no one to listen to his arguments, profound in fact, but often most casually stated. For thirteen years (1813 to 1826) Rafinesque was professor in the then new, but now old, Transylvania University at Lexington, Kentucky, where he found a friend and defender in John Clifford, one of the very few who could know him at his best, in a community which mostly doubted his sanity.

He died in Philadelphia in 1840, in abject poverty