

school of business administration, and \$125,000 from Mrs. Joseph T. Jones for the establishment of a chair of French. With the exceptions noted, practically all the remaining contributions are to be used as the university trustees see fit.

At the annual fall meeting of the trustees of Williams College gifts for endowment totaling approximately \$384,600 were announced, of which nearly \$136,000 has been donated for the Williams Professorship Foundation.

MISS NANCY BARTLETT, of Olean, N. Y., has given \$150,000 to Alfred University for the construction of a men's dormitory. The building will be a memorial to her father, Frank H. Bartlett, of Olean, N. Y., long a trustee of the university.

DR. J. S. BOYCE, director of the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, has resigned, effective September 30, to join the faculty of the Yale Forest School as professor of forest pathology.

WILLIAM DUNCAN STRONG, assistant curator of North American ethnology and archeology at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, has been appointed professor of anthropology in the University of Nebraska to take the place of Dr. Hutton Webster, who has leave of absence.

CHANGES of staff in the department of chemistry and chemical engineering at the University of Maine for the college year 1929-30 were as follows: H. C. White and R. N. Pollock resigned to enter industrial fields; Dr. F. J. Guerin, E. J. Bogan and E. S. Durgan were appointed as instructors. M. G. Moore, since graduation a chemist at the Geneva Experiment Station in New York, was appointed as a teaching fellow.

DR. EDWARD J. PETRY, from 1920 to 1923 professor of botany and plant pathology in South Dakota State College at Brookings, who was successively consulting botanist for the experiment station and survey botanist for the South Dakota Geological and Biological Survey during 1924-25, has recently been transferred from Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas, where he was for three years professor and head of biology, to the headship of biology in Central College, Fayette, Missouri.

DR. GEORGE P. STEINBAUER, formerly instructor at the University of Minnesota, has been appointed assistant professor of botany at the University of Maine.

SIR WILFRED GRENFELL was installed as rector of the University of St. Andrews on November 6.

## DISCUSSION

### COLLECTING IN THE LOWER EOCENE

FOLLOWING in the footsteps of Granger, Loomis, Sinclair and others, it was our privilege this summer to visit the Big Horn Basin of Wyoming and search for vertebrate fossils in the Wasatch beds of lower Eocene age. The season's hunting produced hundreds of teeth, jaws, limbs and partial skeletons which pertain to such widely varied classes as the fishes, reptiles, birds and mammals, not to mention a few invertebrates.

Collecting in this formation, which is the very threshold of the Age of Modernized Mammals, generally produces fragmentary things only. Whole skeletons are exceedingly rare, but occasionally one is found: it may be a complete crocodile or coryphodont; two or three fine specimens of *Eohippus* are known; there is in existence a splendid skeleton of *Notharctus*, an ancestral primate; a magnificent skeleton of *Diatryma*, the giant bird, was found by the American Museum. Few others such as these are in our museums.

Fossil birds are always rare, and especially in the older geological horizons, therefore the finding of a fairly complete specimen of *Diatryma* (but without skull and neck vertebrae) was particularly fortunate.

This new discovery will supplement our knowledge of the giant wading birds of the Wasatch, heretofore known almost exclusively from two specimens.

A detailed report can not be made until the slow work of preparing and classifying the many specimens is completed, but it is hoped that in the array of small mammals: primates, carnivores, ungulates, rodents, insectivores, etc., there may be some new varieties now unknown to paleontology. In addition to this more technical use the collection offers choice study material for students, and much of it will be placed on exhibition.

EDWARD L. TROXELL

TRINITY COLLEGE

### CONCERNING THE MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY

THE biological basis for the cure of most diseases of parasitic origin—whether of animals or plants—is to be found in the existence of a differential in susceptibility between the host and the parasite. In other words, the remedy in at least a large percentage of cases is a poison to both organisms, but it works somewhat more easily or quickly upon one than upon the other. Sometimes the differential is large, some-