

University and Educational Intelligence.

LEEDS.—Applications are invited for a lectureship in bacteriology, particulars of which may be obtained from the registrar. The latest date for the receipt of applications is February 23.

LONDON.—On Monday, February 23, Prof. W. T. Gordon will begin a course of twelve Swiney lectures on "The Geological History of Plants," at King's College, at 5.30 o'clock. The succeeding lectures will be given on February 25, March 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, and April 1. Admission will be free.

A free public lecture (in English) on "The Relation of Paralysis Agitans to the Parkinsonian Syndrome of Epidemic Encephalitis" will be given in the Lecture Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, W.1, by Prof. R. Cruchet, of the University of Bordeaux, at 5 o'clock on Wednesday, February 25.

A course of four public lectures on "Puerperal Sepsis" will be given by Prof. B. P. Watson, at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School on March 2, 3, 4, and 5, at 5 o'clock.

PROF. WIELAND of Königsberg has been offered the chair of pharmacology at the University of Frankfurt.

DR. FRITZ HILDEBRANDT, lecturer at the University of Heidelberg, has been offered the chair of pharmacology at the Medical Academy in Düsseldorf.

DR. PERCY BRIGL, first assistant at the Institute of physiological chemistry in the University of Tübingen, has been nominated professor and director of the Institute of Agricultural Chemistry at the Agricultural Hochschule at Hohenheim.

DR. FRIEDRICH PASCHEN, who was recently appointed president of the Physikalisch-Technische Reichsanstalt, has been elected to an honorary professorship in the philosophical faculty of the University of Berlin.

NOTICE is given that the examinations for the award of the Tate Scholarships in engineering, science, and domestic science at Battersea Polytechnic for the session 1925-1926 will be held on June 9 and succeeding days. The annual value of the scholarships is from 20*l.* to 30*l.* each, with free tuition, and the tenure is three years. The last date of entry is April 18.

A LECTURER in botany at University College, Colombo, will shortly be appointed. Candidates for the post must hold a first-class honours British degree, with botany as the principal subject, or have equivalent qualifications, and should have had experience of lecturing or teaching. Particulars of the appointment and copies of the necessary forms of application are obtainable from the Private Secretary (Appointments), Colonial Office, Downing Street, S.W.1. The completed forms must be returned by at latest March 1.

A JUDICIAL decision of interest to all who are concerned with educational finance was announced in the November number of *School Life*, the official journal of the Washington Bureau of Education. The Supreme Court of Oklahoma upheld the validity of a State appropriation to aid in paying teachers' salaries in districts that had levied the maximum school tax and still could not maintain their schools. The court held that the burden of education rests on the State, and that the local rates are in the nature of aid to the State, which is bound to take such measures as are necessary for financing the school system, so as to afford equality of opportunity throughout the State.

Early Science at Oxford.

February 15, 1683-4. Mr. Aston sent an account of ye ascent of water in a bolt-head, a great while before freezing; and that a peice of Ice, of 3¼ inches thick, 4 broad, and a foot long, bore, in ye middle, ye weight of 350 lb, but with 400 lb, after some time, it broke; and (which is most surprising) that ye ice on ye Thames of late was not above 11 inches thick. The same letter told us, that Ice was asserted to be to water in weight, as 7 to 8: which differs not much from Mr. Desmasters late experiment.

Then my Lord Bishop of Ferns his Discourse, concerning Acousticks, and ye severall ways of improving the sense of hearing, was read.

Mr. Ballard acquainted ye company with his success in some late Experiments performed by order of ye company. A part of ye Rosemary stone (lately shewn us by Dr. Plot) after calcination in a charcoale fire, apply'd to a magnet as well as that which had been calcined in a seacoale fire. He chose to calcine it in a charcoale fire, haveing some suspicion it might receive some particles of iron, from ye seacoale; for he has formerly observed seacoal to be a kind of imperfect, or unripe iron-ore, because by an excessive heat of a forge it will flow, like molten metals, and then run to ye bottom of ye fire; where, haveing now lost all its combustible parts, it presently grows dead and looking black, is cast out, a perfectly burnt cinder.

1686-7.—A letter from Dr. Garden of Aberdeen, Dec. 8, to Dr. Plot, gives an account of ye generation of ye small caterpillar, which infests blossoms of peares and apples, and destroys ye fruit: viz. that they are not bred of mists and dews as Godartius thinks, but of eggs; from whence he draws several other inferences.

February 16, 1685-6.—Mr. Ash, secretary of the Philosophical Society of Dublin, described the case of a woman in ye North of Ireland, who fasted for ye space of eighteen weekes, and did not speak in almost all that time.—This gave Dr. Plot occasion to mention a silent woman now living at Wanborow in Wilts, who has not spoke in near twenty yeares, of whom he promises to procure a more full relation.

February 17, 1684-5.—A Nyctalops, or case of night-blindness, was described by Dr. Briggs. Being a schoolmaster, and able to answer such queries as shall be proposed to him, the Society agreed to send a list of queries, among which were: Whether this Person can see by Candle-light, in a darke room, any time of the Day? Whether, at any time, by candle-light darted through a Ball of water? Whether by ye light of Glow-wormes, rotten wood, Herrings heads &c.? Whether at any time, and by any light, with ye Bishop of Ferns his Spectacles? Whether his Eyes are equally affected?

A description of the *Cicindela volans*, by Mr. Waller, F.R.S. was read, and Dr. Plot affirm'd, that this Insect has been observed in Staffordshire.

Mr. Walker brought in an account of the prices of ye best wheat and mault at Oxford on the market-dayes next before Lady-day and Michaelmas for twenty yeares last past: by which it appears, that the price of wheat for twenty yeares last past at a mean rate (*i.e.* one year with another) has been 5*s.* 4¼*d.* ye bushell: mault, during the same time, in ye same market, at a mean rate, has sold at 2*s.* 11½*d.* ye bushell.

Mr. Cole promised patterns of Dyes of seven distinct colours from his Shell-fish, viz.: white, a fine yellowish green, a fair deep sea-green, a deep Watchet blew, a sullen purple, a deep dark sanguine, and ye bright Tyrian purple.