

therefore, the bald outside edge were divided in millimetres, the whole range would be available for metric measurement, and if the lower half of the space at the back of the slide now empty were divided in inches, hat measurements from 20 to 41 inches would complete the range for the English scale.

C. V. B.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE.—Mr. Frederick Wilkin, of Lower Consley Wood, Wadhurst, Sussex, proposes to found a studentship in memory of his son, Mr. Anthony Wilkin, late of King's College, and for this purpose he proposes to make over to the university the tithe rent charge on Wadhurst Parish. This benefaction is for the furtherance of ethnological and archæological research, and the holder is to be termed "The Anthony Wilkin Student." It is proposed that the student shall be selected by the board of anthropological studies; the income is estimated at about 40*l.* a year, and the board suggests that this should be accumulated for periods of five years in order that a substantial sum of about 200*l.* may be available for the selected candidate. The first studentship will be offered in 1910.

Mr. W. W. Watts, of Sidney Sussex College, Mr. H. Y. Oldham, of King's College, Mr. A. R. Hinks, of Trinity College, and Mr. G. G. Chisholm have been appointed examiners for part ii. of the examination for the diploma in geography.

A combined examination of non-resident candidates for open scholarships, exhibitions, &c., will be held at Trinity College, Clare College, Trinity Hall, Peterhouse, and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, beginning on Tuesday, December 5. Forms of application for admission to the examination may be obtained from any of the tutors of Trinity College, the senior tutor of Clare College, the tutor of Trinity Hall, the senior tutor of Peterhouse, or the master of Sidney Sussex College, to one of whom the form of application (when filled up), together with certificates of birth and of moral character, should be sent. Entries should be made not later than November 23.

A TEACHING observatory will, it is reported by *Science*, be established by the Ontario Government at the University of Toronto. Dr. C. A. Chant expects to visit the observatories of the United States to study their plans and methods.

A CONFERENCE of scientific students was held at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, on April 28 and 29, and representatives of leading universities and colleges were present. A number of papers upon subjects relating to the scientific problems of the Rocky Mountain country were read. A similar conference, held a year ago at the same institution, was of such importance that it led to this second series of meetings.

WITH the view of making the municipal museum a centre of education in the broad principles of natural science, the Hull authorities have arranged with the curator, Mr. T. Sheppard, for the delivery by him of simple lectures to school children on geology, zoology, and anthropology. The lectures are given in the mornings by arrangement. Permission for pupils to visit the museum must be obtained from the clerk of the education committee. Each lecture lasts about half an hour, and is illustrated by objects from the cases. The remainder of the morning is occupied in examining the specimens, taking notes, and making sketches.

MR. A. C. BENSON contributes to the *National Review* an important article on an Eton education. Mr. Benson, though a classicist, is by no means satisfied with the existing state of educational matters at Eton. Describing the average boy who leaves Eton, Mr. Benson says:—"The basis of his education has been, as a rule, the classical basis; that is to say, the greater part of his working hours have been devoted to Latin and Greek. A small percentage of fair classical scholars and a still smaller sprinkling of distinguished classicists is the result. But the average boy leaves Eton with no mastery of either of these languages.

He cannot, as a rule, construe at sight an easy passage in either, or turn a piece of English into either language without a large crop of mistakes." In another place Mr. Benson states that the boy "never reaches the stage at which classics become literature." He urges that for the large class of boys who are not intended for the university, the strictly classical programme might be with advantage modified. Mr. Benson believes that a boy who left school with a thorough knowledge of French, "who knew the elements of science, so as to be able to understand something of what was going on in the world around him, in heaven and earth and sea, in field and wood," who knew arithmetic and had a reasonable knowledge of geography and history, would leave school a fairly educated man. Mr. Benson would have a very simple core of education on the lines just indicated, and then any evidence of special capacity, linguistic, mathematical, scientific, or historical, should be carefully observed, and at a certain age a boy's studies should converge more closely upon a special subject, care being taken at the same time that the general education should not be neglected.

A VALUABLE address was delivered by Prof. A. Pedler, F.R.S., Vice-chancellor of the University of Calcutta, and Director of Public Instruction with the Government of Bengal, at the recent convocation of the Senate of the university for conferring degrees. During the course of his remarks, Prof. Pedler said that fifty years ago university education in Bengal had no existence, the doors of western learning had not been opened, and the knowledge of western science was absolutely beyond the reach of anyone in the country. During the last half-century the possibilities of obtaining western knowledge and western culture, and the facilities for higher education, have been rapidly developed, until a whole network of educational institutions has been spread over Bengal. Inquiring as to whether the form of education being given to the people is affecting them in the most satisfactory way, Prof. Pedler came to the conclusion that it is not. The arrangements he said, are wanting in concentration of effort, in thoroughness of method, and in the intelligent appreciation of means to ends. After instituting a comparison between what has been accomplished in Japan and in Bengal, he came to the conclusion that the secret of the brilliant success of university education in Japan is to be found in the observance of certain cardinal principles, viz. patience in obtaining results; thoroughness in work; concentration of university work in a few really well equipped and strongly staffed colleges, each institution being devoted to one special section of learning, which is taught thoroughly; adaptation of the courses to the practical wants of life and of modern civilisation, as exemplified by the large proportion of graduates who elect the practical rather than literary courses of study; originality as shown by the large number of young men who undertake research work, and also shown by the large number of original contributions in science. In the future, Prof. Pedler remarked, it will be necessary in Bengal to adopt all these principles and to adhere to them with uncompromising tenacity, if university work is to be placed on a really satisfactory footing. The principles could also be applied with profit to a large part of the work of our own educational institutions.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

LONDON.

Geological Society, April 19.—Mr. H. B. Woodward, F.R.S., vice-president, in the chair.—The Blea Wyke beds and the Dogger in north-east Yorkshire: R. H. **Rastall**. The author describes the type-section at Blea Wyke in detail, dividing the rocks into the following divisions, enumerated in descending order:—(5) Dogger; (4) yellow beds; (3) Serpula beds; (2) Lingula beds; (1) *Striatulus* shales. Descriptions and fossil lists from these divisions are given, and the succession is compared with others.—Notes on the geological aspect of some of the north-eastern territories of the Congo Free State: G. F. J. **Preumont**, with petrological notes by J. A. **Howe**. This paper is a brief sketch of the geological structure of the northern part of the Congo State, from Buta on the River Rubi and Bima