

### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE New York correspondent of the *Times* announces that Dr. Charles W. Eliot's resignation of the presidency of Harvard University will take effect in May next.

MISS HOLLAND WREN has been appointed by the council of the Pharmaceutical Society demonstrator in the society's School of Pharmacy. This is the first time a woman has been appointed to such a position since the school was established more than sixty years ago.

THE current number of *Child Study*, the journal of the Child Study Society, which is published quarterly, contains an article by Dr. Alex. Morgan, principal of the Provincial Training College, Edinburgh, on child study in relation to the training of teachers. Dr. Morgan thinks there is a tendency to over-estimate the practical utility at the present time of psychology in education, and though he hopes the time will come when we shall have a scientific pedagogy founded entirely on a scientific psychology, he is of opinion that this day is not imminent.

It is stated in the *Pioneer Mail* that Mr. Chinubhai Madhwal has given four lakhs of rupees in  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Government securities to be applied by the Government towards the development of science teaching in Ahmedabad, in connection, if possible, with the proposed Curline Institute in Bombay. The Governor, in acknowledging the gift, is reported to have said that the response to his appeal for means to develop science teaching in the Presidency is far more generous than he had dared to hope, and the splendid benefactions, amounting to eighteen lakhs, prove alike the large-hearted patriotism of the givers and their recognition of one of India's greatest educational needs.

THE Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland has re-published in pamphlet form an article by Mr. A. E. Easthope, principal of the technical schools and organising secretary for technical instruction in the county of Louth, on technical instruction in Dundalk. The article originally appeared in the department's *Journal* (vol. viii., No. 4). This is the sixth of a short series of articles on recently established Irish technical schools. The Municipal Technical School, Dundalk, is housed in a new building specially erected for the purpose, and Mr. Easthope's description and the illustrations of various departments of the school serve admirably to illustrate the progress being made in this department of Irish education.

THE report for the year ending on June 30 last of Mr. Charles Madeley, director and librarian of the Warrington Museum Committee, shows that the educational work in connection with the museum continues to be developed. There was during the year a notable increase in the number of accessions to the museum. Continued interest is taken in the wild-flower table, which is a distinctive feature of the work done at Warrington. The average number of species on view during July to October was 175, the maximum, 200 species, being reached on September 4. In the autumn the flowers were succeeded by fruits and seeds. Personal observation has proved that the number of persons making regular visits for the purpose of studying these plant specimens is on the increase, and the number of inquiries for botanical information continues to grow. Additions have also been made to the specially arranged educational exhibits, particularly in the botanical gallery and the department of invertebrate animals. It is to be hoped that the authorities of more provincial museums may follow the example of Warrington and make their exhibits serve an educational purpose of a definite kind.

THE calendar of University College (University of London) for the session 1908-9 has just been issued. It contains many new features. The outline of the history of the college, by Dr. Carey Foster, has been revised and brought up to date. The calendar also contains a set of plans that show more completely than before the uses to which the extension of buildings is being put. The new buildings have resulted in extended accommodation for the libraries, for the faculty of arts, for the departments of geology, hygiene, experimental psychology, and for each

of the departments of the faculty of engineering. The calendar also contains a section setting forth in full the arrangements for post-graduate courses of lectures and the facilities for research work. The regulation with regard to admission is as follows:—"On the recommendation of the professor of any department, any student qualified to undertake research work may be admitted to the college for the purpose of undertaking such work. Each student so admitted shall pay in the office a registration fee of *il. is.* per session, and such other fee (if any) as the regulations of the department may require, and shall bear the cost (if any) of his work." It appears from the summary of students that there were no fewer than 229 post-graduate and research students in the college last session.

THE annual general meeting of the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions was held on November 7 at St. Bride's Institute, Bride Lane, London. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Charles Harrap, the president, congratulated the members on the steady progress which has been made. He went on to say it is time there was a technical college for training teachers. No one knows better than the members of the association how difficult it is to get competent technical handicraft teachers—men who have worked at the trade and know how to teach it. Such men, when found, deserve the best treatment from authorities in order that they may be retained for the benefit of technical instruction generally. Among the difficulties which have to be overcome if English technical education is to be successful is the necessity of obtaining the concurrence of both employers and employees in any scheme intended to substitute trade-school training for part or whole apprenticeship. The London County Council has been able to form two consultative committees, one for the bookbinding and another for the printing trades, each committee consisting of three employers, three representatives of the employees, and three London County Council nominees. One of these committees has completed its preliminary work, and in due course an experimental school is to be tried where lads can undergo a proper preparatory training for the trade. The youths will generally be selected by scholarship tests, and may enter the preparatory trade training school from  $12\frac{1}{2}$  years of age. The newly elected president of the association is Mr. J. Wilson, head of the chemical department, Battersea Polytechnic, S.W., who has acted as honorary secretary of the association since its formation in 1904. His successor in that office is Mr. P. Abbott, head of the mathematical department, Regent Street Polytechnic, London, W.

### SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

LONDON.

Royal Society, June 25.—"Eutectics Research, No 1. The Alloys of Lead and Tin." By Walter Rosenhain, with P. A. Tucker. Communicated by Dr. R. T. Glazebrook, F.R.S.

Attempts to prepare pure eutectic alloys led to the discovery of discrepancies between the authors' experiments and the data on lead-tin alloys published by Roberts-Austen. The present paper contains an account of the complete re-determination of the equilibrium diagram of the lead-tin series. The eutectic point is now placed at 63 per cent. of tin, and the eutectic line ends, towards the lead end of the series, at 16 per cent. of tin, while a series of transformations in the solid alloys, with a maximum temperature lying at  $150^{\circ}$  C., has been discovered. By the aid of levigated oxide of chromium the alloys have been polished for microscopic examination, and this has enabled the authors to decide many points with greater accuracy. For the purposes of microscopic examination, and also for cooling-curve purposes, specimens of the alloys were kept at temperatures of  $175^{\circ}$  C. for periods up to six weeks, and some were quenched in liquid air. Cooling and heating curves ranging down to  $-180^{\circ}$  C. were also taken. By these means it was shown that the transformation above mentioned consists in a change in the solid solution of tin in lead, which passes from a  $\beta$  into an  $\alpha$  condition, at the same time rejecting tin from solution.