

TABLE II.—Book Production—Per Cent. for Each Subject.

Country 1908	Medicine	Law	Philosophy	Religion	History	Sociology	Literature	Education	Art	Science	Military science	Fiction
Belgium	5·7	7·0	2·6	3·8	13·4	8·6	17·3	3·8	6·2	7·0	1·1	—
Denmark	3·7	1·1	1·2	9·6	—	—	23·2	3·3	2·2	9·7	—	—
France	10·5	6·3	2·1	7·3	17·3	6·4	22·0	11·4	1·2	4·5	3·9	—
Germany... ..	5·8	10·0 ¹	2·3	8·4	9·0	10·0 ¹	19·5	13·8	2·9	5·7	2·3	13·7 ⁴
United Kingdom	3·1	2·6	—	9·5 ²	13·9	6·7	18·4	6·4	—	11·8	—	2·6
Italy	7·6	4·9	2·8	4·4	12·0	6·7	14·1	13·1	2·6	5·8 ³	1·9	6·3
Netherlands ...	3·3	5·3	—	6·2	—	5·3	—	9·3	—	5·3 ³	—	—
Russia	4·6	3·1	—	6·8	3·0	—	10·2	7·9	—	2·5	—	—
United States...	3·6	9·9	1·9	8·8	14·7	5·9	13·3	4·5	2·5	5·1	—	16·0

¹ Law and political science.² Religion and philosophy.³ Science and technology.⁴ Belles lettres.

Although correspondence between mental and pathological conditions, or concomitant relations, does not necessarily indicate causal connection, yet it is interesting to note a few instances. In general, those countries which have the greatest illiteracy, as Italy, Belgium, and France, show the highest percentage of murder. They also have a high percentage of stillbirths, death-rate, and death-rate under one year of age. Two of these countries, where the illiteracy is more pronounced, as in Italy and Belgium, show a low rate of suicide and divorce. On the other hand, the least illiterate countries, as Germany, Switzerland, and Denmark, have a high rate of suicides.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

BIRMINGHAM.—The chair of midwifery recently vacated by Dr. Edward Malins has been filled by the appointment thereto of Dr. Thomas Wilson, who has previously held the post of lecturer in this subject.

CAMBRIDGE.—Prof. R. C. Punnett has been selected by the Prime Minister and Mr. A. J. Balfour as the first Arthur Balfour professor of genetics.

A prize of 50*l.* out of the Gordon Wigan Fund will be awarded at the end of the Easter term, 1913, for a research in chemistry, of sufficient merit, carried out in the University of Cambridge. The research may be in any branch of chemistry. The dissertation, with the details of the research, must be sent to the professor of chemistry not later than June 13, 1913.

The current number of *The Reporter* contains revised schedules of the special examination in geography for the ordinary degree, and for the examination for the diploma in geography. It also contains the list of subjects for the special examination in military subjects for next year.

OXFORD.—On November 19 Convocation will be asked to assent to a decree providing that a plot of land on the south side of the University Park, and another plot at the north-west angle of the park, be assigned for the purposes respectively of a chemical and an engineering laboratory. It is possible that the proposals will meet with opposition, as many members of the University are averse from further encroachments on the space available for recreation. At a later date statutes will be submitted to Congregation amending the present constitution (1) of the Hebdomadal Council by abolishing the existing division into "Orders" of its elected members, and (2) of Congregation, by abolishing the present qualification of residence, and enacting that in future Congregation shall consist of the teaching and administrative elements in the University and colleges. Another proposed statute provides, in certain circumstances, for a poll of Convocation to be kept open for three days.

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It is thought that the second at least of these proposals, *i.e.* that relating to Congregation, will be resisted.

The election to a fellowship at All Souls' College of a graduate distinguished in mathematics or natural science is a rare occurrence, hence it is specially worthy of record that Mr. D. B. Somervell, of Magdalen College, one of the latest elected fellows of All Souls', obtained honours in mathematical moderations in 1908, and first-class honours in chemistry in 1911.

The new Pharmacological Laboratory was formally opened on November 9 in the presence of the Vice-Chancellor and a large assemblage of Oxford medical graduates. The history of the department was briefly recounted by Sir William Osler, Regius professor of medicine, and an address on "The New Pharmacology" was delivered by the Reader, Dr. J. A. Gunn. Space for the new laboratory has been found by the insertion of a floor in the rooms on the west front of the museum formerly occupied by the Radcliffe Library. Of the two stories thus formed, the upper is devoted to pharmacology, the lower is shared between the Hope department of entomology and the department of mineralogy.

LIEUT.-COL. W. W. O. BEVERIDGE, D.S.O., Royal Army Medical Corps, has been appointed professor of hygiene at the Royal Army Medical College, Grosvenor Road, S.W., in succession to Brevet-Col. C. H. Melville.

We learn from *Science* that Mr. T. W. Todd, at present lecturer in anatomy at Victoria University of Manchester, has been appointed Henry Willson Payne professor of anatomy in the medical department of Western Reserve University in the United States. Prof. Todd will take up his new duties in December.

THE sum of 10,000*l.*, free of Government duties, has been bequeathed by the late Misses Mary, Hannah, and Helen Dalgety and Mrs. Isabella Dalgety, or Wilson, to the University of Edinburgh for the foundation and endowment of bursaries not exceeding 50*l.* for two years and prizes in the law faculty of the University.

A MEETING of the governors of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, was held under the chairmanship of Lord Ashcombe, at Caxton House, on Monday, November 11. The governors considered the proposed establishment of a fruit research plantation in the south-eastern district, and decided to accept the responsibility of administering such a plantation with the aid of the grant of 500*l.* offered by the Board of Agriculture.

THE council of the City and Guilds of London Institute has conferred the fellowship of the institute upon Mr. A. Chatterton and Mr. W. D. B. Duddell, F.R.S. This distinction is extended to those students who

have obtained the associateship of the institute, and spent at least five years in actual practice, and by original and valuable research work or otherwise have contributed to the advancement of the industry in which they are engaged.

RECENTLY the faculty of medicine of the University of Giessen conferred the honorary degree of doctor of medicine upon Ernst Leitz, Junior, the junior partner of the celebrated optical firm, E. Leitz, of Wetzlar, and 18 Bloomsbury Square, London. It is only a little more than a year since the University of Marburg honoured the senior partner of the same firm by conferring upon him the degree of doctor of philosophy. It must be gratifying to the firm that its services towards science are so highly appreciated and recognised.

A JOINT conference on the Montessori system of education, arranged by the Child Study Society (London) and the Montessori Society of the United Kingdom, will be held at the Royal Sanitary Institute, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W., on Saturday, November 16. The chair will be taken at 3 p.m. by the Hon. Sir John A. Cockburn, K.C.M.G. The conference will be preceded on Friday, November 15, at 7.30 p.m., by a lecture by Madame Pujol-Segalas (of Paris) on "Maria Montessori's Method and Self-education." Mr. R. Blair, education officer of the London County Council, will preside.

THE following lectures for advanced students of the University and others interested in the subjects are announced in *The London University Gazette*. A course of six lectures on "Methods of Illumination as applied to Microscopy," at Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, Chandos Street, W.C., by Mr. J. E. Barnard, at 5 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning on November 14; and a course of three lectures, on "Recent Work in Experimental Embryology," in the Zoological Lecture Room of University College, by Dr. J. W. Jenkinson, on Fridays, November 29, December 6 and 13, 1912, at 5 p.m. Admission to the lectures is free, without ticket.

MR. A. G. WARREN has been appointed a lecturer in the engineering faculty of the University of Hong Kong. He was a lecturer in the East London College, and has been head of the engineering department of the Aston Manor Technical School, Birmingham, for the last eighteen months. In July last Prof. C. A. M. Smith (of the East London College) was appointed to the Tai Koo chair of engineering in that University, and immediately proceeded to the Far East to take up his new duties. The Hong Kong University opened its doors to students in October, 1912, and, although the equipment of the engineering department had not then been commenced, there were thirty-five engineering students who passed the entrance examination, and who now form the first-year engineers of the latest British university. It is interesting to record the fact that these Chinese engineering students have come from many different parts, and include some from Straits Settlements, Canton, and Foochow.

VARIOUS changes are proposed in the regulations for the examinations for certain junior appointments in the Civil Service. The age limits for the appointments being eighteen to nineteen and a half years, they are as a rule competed for by candidates from secondary schools. Certain subjects in the examination are compulsory; while the optional subjects are divided into two classes, the papers in one being of a lower standard than those in the other, and consequently receiving only half the marks of the higher papers. At present, papers of lower standard are set

in mathematics, French, German, Latin, Greek, English history, chemistry, and physics; and higher papers are set in mathematics, French, German, Latin, Greek, English and European history, chemistry, and physics. It is proposed in 1914 to set a lower paper in European history in addition to the subjects named above, and no longer to set higher papers in history, chemistry, and physics. It is clear that the proposed change will operate unfavourably against schools where two classical languages are not taught, and against candidates whose abilities are scientific rather than linguistic. We are glad to notice that the Education Committee of the London County Council has passed a resolution to this effect, which is being sent to the Civil Service Commissioners for their consideration.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

LONDON.

Royal Anthropological Institute, November 12.—Dr. A. P. Maudslay, president, in the chair.—R. W. Williamson: The Mekeo people of New Guinea. Mr. Williamson gave an account of the Mekeo modes of courtship and ceremony of marriage. For the former, love charms and philtres are extensively used, and the rising sun is appealed to for help. The negotiations for the marriage involve substantial gifts by the boy's family to that of the girl, including ornaments, &c., which are presented at the time of the negotiations, and pigs, which the girl's relatives afterwards secure by means of a mock hostile raid upon the boy's clan. The author also described some of their ceremonial dances, which he believed to have an origin in an imitation of the dancing movements during the courting season of the goura pigeon, and elaborate ceremonial performances, at which much coveted decorations are bestowed upon warriors who have slain an enemy in battle; also their funeral and mourning ceremonies, the former of which includes a comic feast and a game of "bob-apple"—the apple being the leg of a pig or kangaroo.

PARIS.

Academy of Sciences, November 4. M. Lippmann in the chair.—G. Bigourdan: The International Time Conference. The first meeting was held at Paris on October 15, and was attended by the representatives of fifteen Governments. The work was subdivided amongst four subcommittees, and a detailed account is given of their conclusions and suggestions.—Paul Appell: The theorem of the last Jacobi multiplier connected with the formula of Ostrogradsky or Green.—L. Maquenne and E. Demoussy: The determination of respiratory coefficients. A discussion of the relations between the apparent and true respiratory coefficients when determined in a fixed volume of air.—W. Kilian and Ch. Pussenot: The age of the shining schists of the Franco-Italian Alps. There is a break in these strata, a portion being Mesozoic and another part Tertiary. These two portions are probably stratigraphically discordant.—Kr. Birkeland: The origin of planets and their satellites. From experimental considerations the author has been led to the view that in solar systems in course of evolution there exist forces of electromagnetic origin of the same order of magnitude as that of gravitation. The retrograde revolution of the recently discovered moons of Jupiter and Saturn is in accordance with this view.—MM. Fayet and Schaumasse: The elliptic elements of the 1912b comet (Schaumasse comet): its identity with the Tuttle comet.—P. Idrac: Spectroscopic observations of the Gale comet (1912) made at the Meudon Observa-