

Peabody College for Teachers for the equipment of the Jesup psychology laboratory of the institution.

THE sum of 1,145 dollars has been given to the University of California for the carrying out of the survey of the animal and bird life of the Yosemite National Park, by the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.

DR. F. BILLINGS, of Chicago, is announced to deliver the next course of Lane medical lectures at the School of Medicine of Stanford University. He will take as his subject, "Focal Infection," and the course will extend from September 20 to 25 next.

WE notice the following appointments in connection with American colleges:—Prof. H. S. Jackson, of the Oregon Agricultural College, to be head of the botany department of the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station, in succession to Dr. J. C. Arthur; Dr. E. W. Sinnott, of the Bussey Institution, to the chair of botany and genetics at the Connecticut Agricultural College.

TROOP COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, Pasadena, has recently received from an anonymous donor the sum of 10,000 dollars towards the equipment of a research laboratory in physical chemistry, and the promise of a like amount yearly for the maintenance of the laboratory. Dr. A. A. Noyes is to be in charge of the new department, dividing his time between Troop College and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

ACCORDING to the Bulletin of the John Rylands Library, Manchester, the appeal on behalf of the University of Louvain which was made by the bulletin has met with a very encouraging reception, upwards of 3000 volumes having already been received or promised. We are glad to learn that an international committee is in process of formation, with the view to co-ordinate the many efforts that are being employed in this country, and also on the Continent, to assist in bringing about the restoration of the devastated library.

THE calendar for the year 1915 of the National University of Ireland is now available. Among the changes in the courses and in the regulations for the year 1916 of which notice is given may be mentioned those in connection with the matriculation examination, travelling studentships, and the courses for higher degrees. For the purposes of matriculation the University is prepared to accept the certificates of a number of examining boards in the British Isles and Australia, and the matriculation certificates of ten specified universities. In addition, any person who has matriculated in any university of the British Dominions and Colonies, other than those already referred to, and has also passed an Intermediate examination in arts or science in that university, will be exempted from the matriculation examination of the National University of London.

SIR A. H. CHURCH, who died on May 31, left to the Royal Society his reversionary interest in forty-three 20*l.* shares in the London County and Westminster Bank (Limited) with the request that when it falls into possession the income may be applied for purposes connected with the preservation or utilisation of the archives of the Royal Society; 500*l.* to the rector and fellows of Lincoln College, Oxford; to the Waynflete professor of mineralogy in the University of Oxford 100*l.* for the purchase of apparatus and mineral specimens, together with the testator's microscope and other optical instruments and mineral specimens, and his chemical apparatus; and 100*l.* to the curators of the Ashmolean Museum. He further requested his wife to make, among others, the following gifts in her lifetime or bequests at her death:—To the trustees of the British Museum for the mineralogical gallery in

the Natural History Museum, his collection of cut precious stones, or such thereof as the keeper of the minerals may select; to the curators of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, his collection of Japanese sword guards, and of sliders or beads, and of Chinese and Japanese bronzes, several Indian glass sprinklers, and a number of other curios and antiques.

THE Berne correspondent of the *Morning Post*, quoting from the *Akademische Rundschau*, gives some interesting information respecting the effects of the war upon the German universities, technical schools, and colleges. It is stated that in the summer term of 1914 there were, at the twenty-two German universities, eleven technical academies, five commercial schools, three veterinary schools, and six agricultural and mining schools, 79,077 students entered, a number which in the autumn of 1914 had sunk to 64,710. Of this number the following were under arms:—

University students	...	...	36,000
Technical students	...	...	8,000
Commercial students	...	...	6,000
Veterinary students	...	...	300
Agricultural students	...	...	300
Mining students	...	...	300
Total	...	...	50,900

The following are the percentages of students of some of the universities who have gone to the front:—Königsberg, 84; Heidelberg, 60; Munich, 56; Berlin, 54; Frankfurt, 11. Of the technical academies Danzig sent the highest proportion of students—90 per cent. The total number of German professors and students killed in the war, up to the end of May, is said to be 1191; Leipzig University has suffered most severely, losing 266 of its students.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

PARIS.

Academy of Sciences, August 2.—M. Ed. Perrier in the chair.—G. Bigourdan: The letters of L. Euler in the correspondence of J. N. Deslisle. H. Douvillé: The Orbitoids of Trinity Island. The distribution of these foraminifera is utilised for the classification of the Eocene strata at Trinity Island.—W. Killian and Antonin Lanquine: The tectonic complications of the south-eastern portion of the Basses-Alpes, near Castellane.—A. Leduc: The internal pressure of gases. The influence of temperature. Experimental data for sulphur dioxide at temperatures between 0° and 1000° C. are not in good accord with the formulæ of Clausius and Sarrau. A new expression is proposed which presents the experimental results with greater exactness.—Sabra Stefanescu: The origin of some accidents of the crown of elephants' molars.—Louis Gentil: The analogies of the Moroccan Haut Atlas and Atlas of the Sahara.—R. Chudeau: Temperature in western and equatorial Africa.—V. Wallich: The suppression of suppuration in war wounds. The treatment, the very favourable results of which are described, is based on suppressing all causes of irritation at the level of the wound, together with the use of a stringently aseptic dressing. No antiseptics are used, draining tubes are removed as early as possible, and the compresses are moistened with a solution of common salt (one tablespoonful to the litre of water) sterilised by boiling for fifteen minutes before use.—V. Galippe: Parasitism in seeds and its importance in general biology. Experiments carried out on thirty-one species of plants showed that normal seeds can contain parasites. In ninety series of experiments seventy-eight results were positive. The parasite was usually a fungus, more rarely a yeast. The possibility of these parasites causing sudden mutations in plants is discussed.—

Edmond **Perrier**: Remarks on the preceding paper.—
Armand **Gautier**: Remarks on the same note of V. Galippe.

August 9.—M. Ed. Perrier in the chair.—J. Comas **Solà**: Stereoscopic photography in the study of the proper motions of stars. The method is based on the extreme delicacy of the eyes, which are capable of producing sensations of relief by displacements of the order of 1μ to 2μ , even making use of an ordinary stereoscope. Placing in a stereoscope two corresponding images of regions near star cluster M. 11, one taken July 12, 1912, and the other July 20, 1915, numerous stars show in relief. In a surface of 20° square, no fewer than 200 stars give evidence of movement after three years.—Thadée **Banachiewicz**: The method of Olbers and multiple solutions.—Arnaud **Denjoy**: The four fundamental cases of derived numbers.—J. **Vallot**: Correction for the error introduced by the containing vessel in the determination of the diathermic power of liquids. The usual method of correcting for the effects of the containing walls is erroneous, owing to reflections due to the different refractive indices of glass and liquid. A slight modification of the usual measurements eliminates this error. Albert **Gascard** and Emile **Beignot-Devalmont**: The localisation of projectiles by radiography.—F. **Bodroux**: A method of preparation of hydrocarbons of the formula $(C_6H_5)_2CH.R$, R being an aromatic nucleus. Phenylmagnesium bromide and bromodiphenylmethane react readily in ether solutions giving triphenylmethane. Paratolyldiphenylmethane and α -naphthylidiphenylmethane can be prepared with good yields by a similar reaction.—E. **Léger**: The resolution of β -nataloin and β -homonataloin into their optical isomerides.—I. **Pouget**: The use of aluminium in preventing deposits in boilers. It is well known that laboratory water baths provided with arrangements for keeping a constant level, when fed with hard waters are put out of action through the feed tube becoming choked with scale. The author has used a water-bath, painted inside with aluminium paint, for three years, nearly continuously, without stoppage, and gives the results of experiments showing that the presence of aluminium greatly diminishes scale formation.—MM. **Russo** and **Tussau**: Geological expeditions through central Morocco.—Emile **Belot**: The deficit and excess of the acceleration of gravity on continents and islands with respect to the isostatic condition of the earth's crust.—Henry **Hubert**: The climates of western Africa.—F. **Garrigou**: Waters containing chlorides and iodides, bromides, sulphides and metals at Beaucens (Hautes-Pyrénées).—Mme. A. **Laborde**: The action of radium on vicious scars resulting from war wounds. The radium radiation was used after filtration through 0.5 mm. of platinum, and from the results of the cases described the conclusion is drawn that the radium treatment may be recommended to set free nerves or tendons included in cicatricial tissue, without any danger of forming fresh adhesions.—M. **Marage**: Contribution to the study of deafness resulting from war wounds. The deafness results from lesions of the auditive centres, either new or of a kind very rarely observed. These lesions are due either to direct shocks on the cranium or to a sudden displacement of air.—Henry D. **Dakin**: Certain antiseptic substances containing chlorine suitable for the treatment of wounds. In studying the germicidal power of antiseptics, it is necessary to take into account the effect of the presence of serum and proteid material in modifying the action. An antiseptic should be soluble, not precipitable by proteids, and possess a minimum toxic power and local irritating action. Hypochlorites fulfil some of these conditions, but are irritating and inconstant in composition. These two drawbacks can be overcome by using a solution of sodium hypo-

chlorite prepared in a manner detailed. The sodium salts of benzene and toluene sulphochloroamides can also be advantageously used as antiseptics. Their aqueous solutions can be used under higher concentrations than hypochlorites, and are very slightly toxic.—R. **Anthony**: A brain of a fœtus of the gorilla.—Edmond **Bordage**: Histolytic phenomena observed during the regeneration of the appendices in certain Orthoptera.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Elements of Finite Differences, also Solutions to Questions Set for Part I. of the Examinations of the Institute of Actuaries. By J. Burn and E. H. Brown. Second edition. Pp. 289. (London: C. and E. Layton.) 10s. 6d.

Mededeelingen van de Rijksopsporing van Delfstoffen. No. 6: The Pliocene Floras of the Dutch-Prussian Border. By Clement Reid and Eleanor M. Reid. Pp. 178+plates xx. (The Hague: The Institute for the Geological Exploration of the Netherlands.)

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