

the antennæ and telson, he now adds the establishment of a hair formula for the endopodite of the two maxillæ and of the second maxillipede and of the joints of the latter, which he finds are constant for the species through all the zoeal stages. He has established nine groups of zoeas based on the form of the antennæ and telson by the aid of which any unknown zoea of any stage may be classified approximately, but the classification is admittedly not a natural one. For example, the group Inachizoea is typical for the Inachidæ, but also contains *Pilumnus*, *Heteropanope* and *Gonoplax*, whilst the group Grapsizoea, although one type is chiefly confined to the grapsoid crabs, contains another type in which are included many of the Portunidæ, also *Thia*, *Eriphia*, *Hyas* and *Maia*; nevertheless, with the further and more exact descriptions of the individual zoeas, one can get a very good idea of their probable position in a natural classification and comparing it with those the adults of which are known, many genera can already be identified.

The system of groups here given is to be regarded as a kind of key which is really helpful and a distinct step forward in the elucidation of the difficult brachyuran larvæ. Several zoeas are described and figured, none of which can be actually referred to any known species, but they are classified into these groups. It is possible, however, from the characters given to place them at least in the families if not in the genera to which they belong.

It is hoped that in the near future the author will produce a similar grouping for the megalopæ, which is much wanted.

University and Educational Intelligence

CAMBRIDGE.—Prof. Werner Heisenberg, of the University of Leipzig and Magdalen College, Oxford, has been appointed Rouse Ball lecturer for the year 1933-34.

At Queens' College, Prof. James B. Buxton, professor of animal pathology in the University, has been elected to a professorial fellowship.

LONDON.—The University is making a grant of £100 towards the fund for the purchase of the "Codex Sinaiticus".

A course of six lectures on cytology will be given at University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1, on Wednesdays commencing on February 7, at 5 p.m. by Dr. R. J. Ludford, Dr. E. S. Horning and Dr. K. C. Richardson. The lectures are open to the public.

OXFORD.—On Tuesday, January 23, Congregation approved an amending Statute for defining more exactly the scope of the Hope professorship of zoology, by adding ("Entomology") to the designation of the professorship, and to the mention of "zoology" wherever it occurs in the statement of the professor's duties.

At the same meeting of Congregation, the Master of Balliol, in moving the preamble of a statute for extending and improving the provisions for the study of forestry in the University, directed attention to the fact that the clauses of the statute, if they were deemed unacceptable, were open to revision by amendment at a later stage. The same point was urged by Dr. N. V. Sidgwick. Prof. F. A. Lindemann, though refraining from opposing the passing of the preamble, thought that the statute in its present

form provided no sufficient guarantee for ensuring the permanence of grants. The preamble was carried without a division.

Prof. W. G. Le Gros Clark, professor of anatomy at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, University of London, has been appointed Dr. Lee's professor of anatomy.

On Tuesday, January 30, Congregation approved the preamble of a statute establishing a statutory readership in physical anthropology. The Senior Proctor, Mr. H. G. Hanbury, of Lincoln College, explained that the duties of the post had been voluntarily undertaken by the former Lee's professor of anatomy; and that the present measure was called for in consequence of the recent retirement of Dr. Arthur Thomson from the professorship.

The honorary degree of M.A. was conferred on Miss Ethel Bellamy in recognition of her work at the University Observatory on the photographic chart of the heavens.

Science News a Century Ago

The King's Speech, 1834

February 4, 1834, saw the opening of Parliament, and amongst the items dealt with in the Speech from the Throne (Earl Grey, Prime Minister) was a mention of the Act passed in the previous session abolishing slavery under the British flag. Legislation dealing with the status and power of municipal corporations was forecast (but was not passed until 1835). The Speech lamented the continued distress amongst the proprietors and occupiers of land, and Parliament was recommended to give early consideration to such a final adjustment of the tithes as may extinguish all just causes of complaint. On the subject of Ireland the Speech contained the following passage: "But I have seen with feelings of deep regret and just indignation the continuance of attempts to excite the people of that country to demand a repeal of the legislative union".

Porcupine Men

During January 1834, a middle-aged man, of very athletic and robust form of body, completely covered with a green horny substance in the form of quills, not dissimilar to those which are produced on the porcupine, presented himself at the Westminster Hospital for exhibition. The parts which had escaped the deformity were his face, the palms of his hands and the soles of his feet; every other part of his person was abundantly supplied with this green horny substance. He stated that he shed his horns, or quills, annually, and a fresh crop succeeded.

A description of the case appears in the *London Medical and Surgical Journal* of February 6, 1834. The man was a member of the celebrated Lambert family, in which this remarkable condition, an extraordinarily scarce form of the skin disease named ichthyosis hystrix, was present in at least six generations. In every case the condition appeared about two months after birth and affected the males only. The case of the first member of the Lambert family to be affected was reported to the Royal Society on March 16, 1731, by John Machin, the secretary, and Prof. Gresh (*Phil. Trans.*, 38, 299; 1731) at fourteen years of age, and in 1755 at the age of thirty-eight with his son Edward by Baker