

University and Educational Intelligence

LEEDS.—Mr. E. R. Flint has been elected to the chair of clinical surgery in succession to the late Prof. Alfred Richardson. Mr. Flint will also retain the directorship of surgical research which he has held during recent months. Mr. H. W. Thompson has been appointed advisory entomologist on the staff of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Thompson is at present on the advisory staff of University College, Cardiff.

LIVERPOOL.—At the meeting of Council on July 10 it was agreed to accept with regret the resignation of Prof. L. R. Wilberforce from the Lyon Jones chair of physics in the University, to take effect not later than September 30, 1935.

The following appointments have been made: Dr. A. M. Blackman, to the Brunner chair of Egyptology as from October 1, in succession to the late Prof. T. Eric Peet; Prof. D. B. Blacklock, Walter Myers professor of parasitology in the University since 1929 and formerly professor of tropical diseases of Africa, and director of the Sir Alfred Lewis Jones Research Laboratory, Sierra Leone, to the newly instituted chair of tropical hygiene as from October 1; Dr. T. Southwell, lecturer in helminthology in the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, to be lecturer in parasitology as from October 1.

The main University library is at present housed in the Tate Library, the gift of Sir Henry Tate in 1892. This present accommodation is altogether inadequate in view of the great increase in the library and the number of readers. Mr. Harold L. Cohen, of Liverpool, has therefore made a gift of £100,000 to the University for the erection of a new library. It is intended to erect the new library on the site of the old School of Architecture in Ashton Street.

LONDON.—The following appointments have been made:—Prof. H. E. Watson, professor of general chemistry at the Indian Institute of Science, to be Ramsay Memorial professor of chemical engineering (University College); Dr. A. B. Appleton, lecturer in anatomy in the University of Cambridge, to be professor of anatomy (St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School); Dr. S. P. Bedson, senior Freedom research fellow at the London Hospital, to be the Goldsmiths' Company's professor of bacteriology (London Hospital Medical School); Prof. F. R. Fraser, University professor of medicine at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, to be professor of medicine (British Postgraduate Medical School); Dr. James Young, lecturer in clinical obstetrics and gynaecology in the University of Edinburgh, to be professor of obstetrics and gynaecology (British Postgraduate Medical School); Prof. E. H. Kettle, since 1927 University professor of pathology at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, to be professor of pathology (British Postgraduate Medical School).

The title of emeritus professor of bacteriology in the University has been conferred on Prof. William Bulloch on his retirement from the Goldsmiths' Company's chair of bacteriology at the London Hospital Medical College, and that of emeritus professor of ethnology in the University on Prof. C. G. Seligman on his retirement from the University chair of ethnology at the London School of Economics.

The Council of East London College has recently conferred on Dr. Allan Ferguson the title of assistant professor in the Department of Physics.

"FRIENDS of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem" in London held their annual meeting on July 16. Since its dedication in April 1925, when it had no regular students but was composed of three research departments, the University has developed rapidly. Other research departments have been added and regular undergraduate instruction has been organised in a faculty of humanities and a division of biological studies, the former having now 253 students, including 21 graduates, and the latter 68. It has institutes and departments of Jewish studies, oriental studies, general humanities, mathematics, physics, biological and colloidal chemistry, inorganic and applied chemistry, Palestine natural history, parasitology and hygiene and bacteriology; a school of agriculture is projected for 1934-35 and the erection of a university hospital with a postgraduate school of medicine and hygiene are contemplated. Since the world economic depression set in, its annual income has shrunk from £50,000 to £40,000, but this has not prevented continued growth. It receives no grant to its regular budget from any public exchequer and the major part of its income is derived from annual contributions of which, hitherto, more than two thirds have come from the United States. The London friends have helped during the past year with donations of money and books and by making known the University's requirements, especially in connexion with German Jewish refugees. Nine displaced German professors have found refuge in the University. Glasgow, Liverpool and Manchester friends have all given valuable help, and a society of Palestine friends has lately been formed and has endowed a Bialik chair of Hebrew.

Science News a Century Ago

Darwin at Valparaiso

Under the date July 23, 1834, Darwin in his "Journal" says "the *Beagle* anchored late at night in the Bay of Valparaiso, the chief seaport of Chile. When morning came, everything appeared delightful. After Tierra del Fuego, the climate felt quite delicious—the atmosphere so dry and the heavens so clear and blue with the sun shining brightly, that all nature seemed sparkling with life. The view from the anchorage is very pretty. . . . In a north-easterly direction there are some fine glimpses of the Andes; but these mountains appear much grander when viewed from the neighbouring hills; the great distance at which they are situated, can then more readily be perceived. The volcano of Aconcagua is particularly magnificent. This huge and irregular conical mass has an elevation greater than that of Chimborazo; for, from measurements made by the officers in the *Beagle*, its height is no less than 23,000 feet. The Cordillera, however, viewed from this point, owe the greater part of their beauty to the atmosphere through which they are seen. When the sun was setting in the Pacific, it was admirable to watch how clearly their rugged outlines could be distinguished, yet how varied and how delicate were the shades of their colour."

Sturgeon on Electrical Kites

When William Sturgeon (1783-1850), the inventor of the electro-magnet, was living at Woolwich he used to experiment with kites and, through a startling

experience, on July 23, 1834 he addressed a letter to the Editor of the *Philosophical Magazine* entitled "Caution to Experimenters with the Electrical Kite". A day or two previously, when clouds had begun to gather, he had gone to the Artillery Barracks ground with an electric kite, got it afloat letting out string through his hands from a coil thrown on the ground. "When about a hundred yards of the string had been let out," he says, "a tremendous discharge took place, which gave me such a blow in the chest and leg that I became completely stunned, let go the string and consequently the kite soon fell." Sturgeon blamed himself for the accident, and after explaining the precautions which should be taken concluded "young persons who are fond of kite flying should also be cautious not to have their kites up during thunder storms, as it is possible that a wet string may transmit a violent discharge, from which a serious accident may occur."

Whewell on Inductive Science

When Whewell held the chair of mineralogy at Cambridge, he planned a series of treatises on the progress of knowledge. When considering the method of dealing with his subject, he corresponded with the political economist, the Rev. Richard Jones (1790–1855) and in a letter dated July 27, 1834, said: "You are to understand that I am to consist of three Books. Book I *History* of Inductive Science, namely, Astronomy, Mechanics, Physics, Chemistry and Botany historiographized in a new and philosophical manner. Book 2 *Philosophy* of Inductive Science, which is what I want to shew you. It will be dry and hard, I fear, as it must contain most of the metaphysical discussions which have been alluded to of late, but it must also contain all the analysis of the nature of Induction and the Rules of its exercise, including Bacon's suggestions. Book 3 *Prospects* of Inductive Science. The question of the possibility and method of Applying Inductive processes as illustrated in the philosophy of Book 2, to other than material sciences; as philology, art, politics and morals."

Launch of H.M.S. Pique

On July 28, 1834, the *Times* recorded the launch at Plymouth of H.M. Frigate *Pique*, 36 guns. The surveyor, or chief constructor, of the Navy was then Captain (afterwards Admiral Sir William) Symonds (1782–1856) who had been appointed to the post in 1832 in succession to Sir Robert Seppings. The *Pique*, said the *Times*, was built upon the plan of Captain Symonds, "who has now, we believe, had the construction of ten ships of war upon his fundamental principles, as a naval architect—that great breadth imparts to a vessel greater stability, or a capability of sustaining an inclined force at the least angle of inclination. This position must be undoubtedly true; but it is contended that its development has been carried to a degree of extravagance from which no desirable advantage whatever has been experienced, while the expense has been enormous. . . . The dimensions of the *Pique* are length of lower deck, 160 feet, breadth extreme 44 feet, depth of hold 13 feet 9 inches, tonnage 1,400 tons. She has been constructed under the able directions of Thomas Roberts, Esq., the veteran ship-builder of Plymouth dockyard, who has now completed the 50th man-of-war launched since his advancement to his present honourable rank."

Societies and Academies

LONDON

Mineralogical Society, June 7. C. PALACHE: The form relations of the lead oxychlorides, laurionite, paralaaurionite, and fiedlerite. The separate identity of each of the first two minerals is confirmed and their homoeomorphism is exhibited by a re-orientation of laurionite. The form series of fiedlerite has been simplified by the choice of a new unit form. New forms are described on paralaaurionite and fiedlerite. The crystallography of all three species is summarised in new angle-tables, and their habits are illustrated by a series of drawings. F. A. BANNISTER: The crystal structure and optical properties of matlockite (PbFCl): W. Nieuwenkamp's recent work proving the identity of matlockite with artificial lead fluochloride, PbFCl, has been confirmed. New chemical analyses, X-ray work and optical measurements have been carried out on single crystals of matlockite from Cromford, Derbyshire. Single crystal photographs of the mineral have also confirmed the crystal structure proposed for artificial PbFCl. Artificial BiOCl, BiOBr and BiOI have crystal structures of the same type, and the relationship between matlockite and these and other compounds is discussed. Artificial Pb₂OCl₂ has a crystal structure quite different from that of matlockite. Mendipite, Pb₂O₂Cl₂, contains no fluorine, and it is improbable that fluorine has been overlooked in the oxychloride minerals from Laurium, Greece. V. ZSIVNY and L. ZOMBORY: Berthierite from Kisbánya, Carpathians. This rare mineral, previously known from two localities in old Hungary, is now described from a third, namely Kisbánya in comitat Szatmár (now Chiuzbaia in Satu Mare, Roumania) where it occurs as bundles of needles with stibnite and rhombohedral carbonates. Analysis agrees closely with the formula FeS.Sb₂S₃, but the specific gravity 4.65 is much higher than values previously recorded. L. J. SPENCER: Beryllium minerals (euclase and phenakite) from Africa. Apart from beryl, there are very few recorded occurrences of beryllium minerals in the whole of Africa. Euclase is described from pegmatite on the Lukangasi mica claim, Morogoro district, Tanganyika Territory. The main crystal on the single specimen collected measures 7.2 cm. by 3.5 cm., being much larger than any euclase crystal hitherto known. Seventeen crystal forms were determined. Small crystals of phenakite from pegmatite at the Klein Spitzkopje, South-West Africa, are of two distinct habits, prismatic and lenticular. A. C. SKERL and F. A. BANNISTER: Lusakite, a cobalt-bearing silicate from Northern Rhodesia. The mineral occurs embedded in quartz-magnetite-kyanite-rock of gneissoid appearance from 80 miles east of Lusaka. Crystals, generally tabular to (010) varying up to 5 mm. in length, are black in hand-specimens, but show a deep cobalt-blue colour, and strong pleochroism in thin section. The mean refractive index is approximately 1.74 and 2V is near 90°. Oscillation, Laue, and rotation photographs show that lusakite has an orthorhombic unit cell with edges *a* 7.86, *b* 16.62, *c* 5.63 Å., and space-group *V*_h¹⁷. The unit cell contains 8 [RO.Al₂SiO₆] where R represents Fe, Co, Ni, Mg, Al, and H. The cobalt content is unique for a silicate and reaches 8½ per cent CoO, or nearly two atoms of cobalt per unit cell. It is almost identical in physical properties with staurolite, and X-ray photographs show that it possesses the same type of crystal structure. A. W. GROVES: The