

Educational Topics and Events

CAMBRIDGE.—The Vice-Chancellor gives notice that the professorship of animal pathology will be vacated on September 30 by the resignation of Prof. J. B. Buxton.

The Board of Managers of the Frank Edward Elmore Fund have awarded studentships to A. C. E. Cole of Trinity College, G. D. Hadley of Clare College, L. C. Martin of Gonville and Caius College and B. McArdale. Dr. H. G. Booker of Christ's College has been appointed assistant lecturer in mathematics, and Mrs. J. V. Robinson of Girton College assistant lecturer in economics and politics.

Dr. T. S. Hele has resigned his University lectureship in biochemistry, H. W. Hall of St. John's College, W. A. Fell of Sidney Sussex and R. S. Handley of Gonville and Caius College their demonstratorships in anatomy, Dr. M. Born his lectureship in mathematics and T. C. Nicholas of Trinity College his lectureship in geology.

COURSES in administration have hitherto been specialized or restricted to different fields of administration, such as industrial, business, public, military, colonial and agricultural administration and often with more emphasis on the adjective than the noun. In a recently issued prospectus, Mr. W. R. Dunlop gives a syllabus of a course in administration with no particular applicational bias, though permitting of such bias by the appropriate selection of illustrative cases and problems. The course embodies the principles and technique, the underlying subjects and the mental activity and art common to all administration. Special attention is given to the history of administration from early times and with special reference to policy and leadership. Administration in its wider sense of human purpose and method is held to be one of the primary objectives of general education, and Mr. Dunlop would like to see specific education for administration, or at least management, made part of our educational system. The prospectus is supplemented by appendixes describing the research work, connexions and experience on which these views and the course itself are based. Copies may be obtained on application in writing to Mr. W. R. Dunlop, 57 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1.

DR. ROSCOE POUND, dean of the Faculty of Law of Harvard University, spoke recently at a Graduate School Convocation in Brown University on "The Place of Higher Learning in American Life". The general tenor of Dr. Pound's thoughtful and stimulating address (*School and Society*, August 8) may be inferred from his remark that his topic might well have had for its title "Higher Learning as Insurance of American Institutions" coupled with his opinion that what is significant in those institutions is that they tend to safeguard opportunity for all, freedom, and the corollary of freedom, responsibility. One of the points he makes is in connexion with the enormous development in recent times of means of manipulating public opinion. "The methods of advertising, carried to the limits of psychological effectiveness in business, have been taken over into public affairs. . . . Even newspapers are being left behind by broadcasting. A proper functioning of democratic institutions calls for corresponding development of the means of resistance to this pressure, and the best guarantee of intelligent resistance is to be found in a general high level of learning".

SALESMANSHIP has long been recognized as a suitable subject of instruction in institutions of higher education in the United States. Recently the complementary science and art of shopping have received a good deal of attention, partly because the industrial depression has focused attention more urgently on the problem of how to get the most one can for one's dollar. At four regional conferences on home-economics education called by the United States Office of Education in 1934, this matter was a principal topic of discussion, and on the basis of material resulting from these and later conferences a pamphlet was prepared by specialists of that Office and published under the title "Consumer-buying in the Educational Program for Home-making: Suggestions for Teachers of Home-making in Secondary School and Adult Classes". Among the reasons given for education for buying are the enormous increase in the variety of commodities and services offered and the fact that price has become even less a guide to quality than it was formerly. The United States Government has been zealous in publishing masses of statistics bearing on the subject in the interest of consumers. Among them are numerous publications of the Department of Agriculture, including its food and drug administration. Such is the profusion of data that in July 1934 a special index to them was published under the title "Government Publications of Use to Consumers".

Science News a Century Ago

Lyell and Mantell

IN a letter to Mantell written on September 19, 1836, Lyell referred to John Fleming (1785-1857), the Presbyterian minister and naturalist, who "after several applications in vain for chairs more consistent with his zoological and botanical acquirements", had accepted the chair of natural philosophy at Aberdeen. This appointment, Lyell said, had given him no doubt "much fag to get up arrears of mathematical knowledge. But unfortunately, something worse than the lectures fell to his hard fate. Several University bills and a Royal Visitation caused tremendous secretarian or clerk's labour to fall on the Junior Professor who is obliged to serve as secretary to the University."

"You will see by this that you, my good friend," Lyell continued, "are not singular in finding it difficult to gratify your liberal thirst for science, without interfering with professional profits. Really, as Milman says, it would be well for the country if, instead of abolishing prebendal stalls, they were given to clerical and lay cultivators of literature and science, who had shown that they would devote energy and superior talents to those departments. When Babbage was taunted one day by a Conservative with 'What do you mean to be when the revolution comes?' he said, 'Lay Archbishop of Winchester'."

Association of German Naturalists

THE annual gathering of the Association of German Naturalists—a society which was a forerunner of the British Association—was held at Jena on September 20-26, 1836. The meeting was attended by many civil and military officials, representatives from Great Britain, Russia, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland,