

February and March 1930. The eleven islands, extending in a chain of 193 miles, are all small and volcanic. The largest has a circumference of only twenty-four miles. Landing is always difficult and on some islands perhaps impossible. Sulphurous fumes in places are a menace. The *Discovery* found no active volcanic eruptions, though five islands were emitting vapours and fumes. There were indications that volcanic activity is abating, and three islands show no recent signs of it. The rocks collected were all typical Andean lavas, as described by Dr. Tyrrell, and confirm Suess's theory of a South Antillean arc. The conspicuous 'deep' to the east, sinking to 4421 fathoms, is another noteworthy feature. The only possibility of sedimentary rocks in the whole group appears to be in Freezeland Peak on Bristol Island, but no landing was achieved there. Some of the islands have ice-caps: others have foreland glaciers. Vegetation seems to be confined to a few lichens and algae. No flowering plants were seen. Fur seals were not found, though they probably occurred in the past. The volume contains maps and photographs of all the islands, and also an Admiralty chart of the group. It is a fairly complete monograph on the islands.

R. N. R. B.

University and Educational Intelligence

CAMBRIDGE.—An election to an Isaac Newton Studentship will be held early in the Michaelmas Term, 1932. These studentships are for the furtherance of advanced study and research in astronomy and physical optics. Members of the University are eligible who have obtained a degree in the University and were under the age of twenty-five years on Jan. 1, 1932: failing such a candidate, a research student, subject to the same condition as to age, may be elected. The studentship will be of the value of £250 a year, and will be tenable for three years. Applications should be sent to the Vice-Chancellor between Oct. 7 and 13, 1932.

Candidates for the Michael Foster Studentship in physiology are requested to send their applications, with a statement of the course of research they propose to undertake, to Prof. J. Barcroft, Physiology School, before the end of June. The student receives the annual value of the fund (about £100).

At Jesus College, Dr. W. H. Thorpe has been elected a fellow. He has been a research fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation at the University of California and a member of the research staff of the Imperial Institute of Entomology. At St. John's College, Dr. L. Rosenhead has been elected a fellow. He entered the college with an Open Strathcona Research Studentship for mathematics, and in 1930 was elected a Senior Research Student of the Royal Exhibition of 1851.

LONDON.—Applications are invited for the Laura de Saliceto studentship for the advancement of cancer research, value £150 annually and tenable for not less than two years. Applications should reach the Academic Registrar, University of London, South Kensington, S.W.7, by July 1 at latest.

OXFORD.—The proposed regulations for the new Final Honour School of Geography are now published, and will be dealt with by Congregation in due course. The stated subjects include physical and regional geography, cartography, the geography of man, and the history of geographical discovery. In addition to these, a special subject may be offered. The examination will be partly practical, and will include laboratory and field work. Candidates will be required to show sufficient knowledge of French or German and of the elements of physics and biology.

READING.—Dr. William B. Brierley, since 1918 head of the Department of Mycology in the Institute of Plant Pathology at the Rothamsted Experimental Station, has been appointed professor of agricultural botany in succession to Prof. J. Percival, who is retiring next September.

The usual summer vacation course for teachers will be held at Bingley Training College, Yorks, on July 27–Aug. 10. Among the courses available are one on biology by Prof. R. Douglas Laurie, professor of zoology, University College, Aberystwyth, and another on the senior school, by Sir Percy Nunn, director of the University of London Institute of Education. Application should be submitted not later than June, while grants-in-aid applications must reach the Education Officer, County Hall, Wakefield, not later than May 31.

The University of Cambridge publishes annually abstracts of dissertations approved for its Ph.D., M.Sc., and M.Litt. degrees (Cambridge: At the University Press, 1932). These summaries, each of which has been approved by the examiners or supervisor of studies, afford a convenient index to the scope of recent advanced study and research in the University. The sixty-one dissertations for the year 1930–31 are distributed among the faculties as follows: Physics and chemistry 24, biology 11, mathematics 8, agriculture 4, engineering 3, archaeology and anthropology 2, history 2, geography, medicine, music, moral science, economics, English, and classics one each. Thirty-eight of the candidates had previously studied in other universities, namely: Liverpool 5, Wales 4, Scottish universities 4, other universities in the British Isles 4, universities in Canada, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand 11, in India 7, in the United States of America 2, Switzerland 1.

COMMERCIAL education in the United States is reviewed in *Bulletin* No. 20, 1931, of the Office of Education, Washington, being advance pages of the official Biennial Survey (1928–30) of Education in the United States. Few people have any idea of the enormous amount of time and energy devoted in the United States to commercial education and to the investigation and discussion of the principles and methods employed in this field in secondary schools and universities. More than a million young men and women are enrolled in business courses, exceeding the number in any field of vocational training, and during the past ten years there was an increase of more than three hundred per cent in such enrolments in colleges and universities. At this rate the schools of commerce will soon be throughout the States, as they are already in many institutions, the largest of the professional and vocational university schools. At the Congress of Universities of the British Empire, held at Edinburgh last July, the subject of commercial education figured prominently, and reference was made to the resistance of British universities to the dangers of being stampeded into endeavouring to make university education more 'practical', with the deplorable results experienced in American universities. This bulletin recounts facts which tend to discount the force of this criticism and show that we have something to learn not only from their mistakes but also from their thorough-going investigation of principles and methods. The bulletin contains summaries of the results of these and other investigations, and will, doubtless, be in request at the International Conference on Commercial Education to be held in London this year. It is obtainable, price 10 cents, from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.