

discharge of oil droplets, and secondly the breaking of the absorbed emulsion by acid and by basic chromium compounds in the interior of the leather.

A valuable application of emulsions to medical science was afforded by a paper by V. G. Walsh and A. C. Fraser on the use of highly dispersed emulsions in the treatment of toxæmic conditions. It dealt in the main with the practical application of the observation that if very large doses of toxin are incubated at body temperature for half an hour with olive oil-soap emulsion, they are rendered non-toxic when injected intravenously. This has been made the basis for the treatment of toxæmic conditions, and more particularly of lobar pneumonia. Other points discussed were the selective adsorption of toxin by emulsion and the administration of vaccines and certain drugs in combination with emulsion, which enabled larger doses to be given without the usual effects of overdose, etc.

H. B. Stevens and W. H. Stevens dealt with the question of rubber latex, and pointed out that much scientific investigation is still required to elucidate the facts underlying all the commonly used processes for coagulating rubber latex.

University and Educational Intelligence

BIRMINGHAM.—With the object of creating a memorial to the late Sir Bertram Windle, first professor of anatomy and first dean of the faculty of medicine in the University, Sir Charles Hyde has given £5,000 towards the cost of the new dissecting room to be built at the new medical school on the understanding that it shall be called the "Bertram Windle Dissecting Room". Sir Charles has also given £300 to found a 'Windle prize' to be competed for by students in the Department of Anatomy. In his letter to the Pro-Chancellor, Sir Charles writes: "I am glad to offer these donations as I realise that they will not only carry out the object I have in mind but will also to some extent assist in the finance of the new Medical School which is naturally causing some anxiety to the Council and to yourself."

CAMBRIDGE.—W. S. Mansfield, Emmanuel College, has been appointed director of the University Farm.

Dr. W. B. Lewis has been elected to an unofficial (Drosier) fellowship for research in physics at Gonville and Caius College.

UNEMPLOYMENT among teachers is serious throughout the United States. In a recent report by the New York City Board of Education examiners, it is stated that applicants now on the eligible list have waited so long and are presumably so rusty that new examination should be required before they are appointed. The report adds that their attitude toward education, toward society, toward life itself is unquestionably antagonistic and many have embraced a radical social and political philosophy. Among the teachers there is a prevalent opinion that the fundamental industries of providing food, clothing, warmth and shelter should be divorced from profit and be conducted solely for the general welfare, as are lighthouses, highways, parks and schools. Not only so, but their National Education Association proposes they should teach this doctrine in the schools.

Science News a Century Ago

Resources and Statistics of Nations

"Under the above title," said the *Times* on December 17, 1834, "the first part of a work which promises to be a very useful one has just made its appearance. It is the undertaking of John M'Gregor Esq. F.S.S. . . . This new work on statistics confines itself to facts, and presents to its readers a collection of tables of the physical aspect, area, civil and natural divisions of countries, population, produce of mines, of agriculture, of forests, etc.; of manufactories and fisheries etc.; military and naval forces, seaports, colonies, roads, bridges, canals and, in short, of everything connected with the science of political economy, of every nation on the globe; which tables are the result of much personal observation and of the most authentic public and private documents which are furnished by the Governments of the different countries, and by the most accurate writers by whom the science has been illustrated. . . . The work which is about to be translated into the French and German languages . . . is at once concise, perspicuous and comprehensible."

John Macgregor, the author of this work, was born in 1797 and died in 1857. He spent many years in America, in 1840 became joint-secretary of the Board of Trade in London, and in 1847 was elected M.P. for Glasgow.

Dublin and Kingstown Railway

The last railway to be brought into operation in 1834 was that from Dublin to Kingstown. The official opening took place on December 17, and on that day the *Times* correspondent wrote: "This day our Kingstown Railroad opened, under very favourable auspices, crowds thronged the offices at Westland-row and every hour a full train of carriages started 'at high pressure'. Everyone engaged in the works seems in excellent spirits at the satisfactory state of the road, engines, carriages, etc. All the machinery works well as yet, except in one particular: the springs are not sufficiently elastic to prevent sudden shocks when the carriages stop. Three or four gentlemen had on one occasion to-day their heads knocked against each other and the carriage doors, and severe contusions were the consequence. A county of Kildare gentleman's head was laid open. The majority had, however, hard Irish heads and did not mind a few knocks. The directors have prepared a splendid entertainment at Kingstown for their friends and the subscribers to the undertaking. The weather is delightful for December, and a few broken heads does not throw much damp on a scene of Irish amusement where everything else goes well."

Elections to the Royal Society

At a meeting on December 18, 1834, Sir Benjamin Brodie in the chair, thirteen additional candidates were elected into the fellowship, making a total of fifty elected in the course of the year. Their names were: the Rev. John Barlow, the Rev. James William Bellamy, William Brockedon, Thomas Galloway, Dr. Bisset Hawkins, Andrew Leith Hay, Francis Kiernan, George Lowe, Richard Owen, Benjamin Phillips, Richard Saumarez, Charles John Tynte, John Gardner Wilkinson.

The list is noteworthy for the inclusion of two candidates who afterwards each achieved the