

Samson once slew a thousand men with the jaw-bone of an ass. Lest those present be **likewise** slain with Samson's weapon I will retire right now to innocuous desuetude.

Lactic Acid Assures Long Life for Mayonnaise. Women scientists are attacking the practical problems involved in the preservation of food. Thanks to Dr. Miriam S. Iszard, of the department of bacteriology at the University of Pennsylvania, mayonnaise dressing, notorious among housewives for its inability to "keep," can now be preserved as long as five months.

Experiments in the bacteriology laboratory indicated that a spore-forming bacillus was responsible for spoilage in mayonnaise, says Dr. Iszard. Since bacteria cannot survive in an acid medium it was decided to try the effect of the addition of small amounts of lactic acid to the dressing. This acid is harmless from the point of view of health and it **was** found that a small **proportion** would check the growth of the bacteria causing decomposition. It was used in preference to vinegar, according to Dr. Iszard, because it **does** not **affect** the taste of the dressing as would the amount of vinegar necessary to inhibit bacterial growth.—Science *Service*

Experimental College Planned for University of Wisconsin. An experimental college, with 250 volunteer students, is to be conducted at the University of Wisconsin in **order** to find improved methods of teaching freshmen and sophomores.

During the first year the experiment will be limited to 125 freshmen, and in the second year freshmen and sophomores will **both** be studied.

Announcing the plan, Dr. Glenn Frank, president of the university, states that the **experiment** will enable the **university** to "test out forms of curriculum and methods of teaching so radically different **from** the prevailing **curricula** and methods that no university would feel justified in **adopting** them for its entire student body in advance of satisfactory tests under controlled experimental conditions."

President Frank states that the quality of the teaching staff of the experimental college will be such that, whatever methods be tried out, the students **will** not lose by not taking the regular courses. The students will receive the same credit for their two years of experimental education, as if they had enrolled in the main branches of the university.—Science *Service*

Geologic Summer School to **Train-Tour** Canada. A geological summer school on wheels, housed in a specially constructed sleeping, dining, and lecture Pullman car, will roll this year from the Atlantic to the Pacific **over** Canada's great mineral empire. The trip extending from July 15th to August 25th will be under the auspices of Princeton University and under the direction of Prof. Richard M. Field.

As foreign guests, two eminent foreign geologists, Prof. **Leon** W. Collet, of the University of Geneva, and Dr. E. B. Bailey, of the Scottish Geological Survey, will accompany the party of 23, which will include professors and practicing geologists as well as undergraduates and graduate students.

By living and traveling in the special car, a new mine or geological site can be visited nearly every day. The Canadian Geological **Survey** will **coöperate** in the instruction. Last year a similar trip was made across the United States and the combination of lectures while **enroute** and field experiences **was** proved to be an efficient method of instruction.

Rocks laid down in past ages, from a hundred million to a million years ago, will be seen at various points along the route. **The** deposits where the bones of gigantic dinosaurs are found, oil wells, copper and nickel mines and large industrial developments will be visited.—Science *Service*