

France, président de la Société internationale des électriciens.

Le général BASSOT, membre de l'Institut et du Bureau des longitudes, chef du service de géodésie et d'astronomie au Service géographique de l'armée.

BECQUEREL (Henri), membre de l'Institut, professeur au Muséum d'histoire naturelle.

BENOIT, directeur du Bureau international des poids et mesures.

BICHAT, professeur à la Faculté des sciences de Nancy.

BLONDIOT, professeur à la Faculté des sciences de Nancy.

CROVA, professeur à la Faculté des sciences de Montpellier.

JOUBERT (Jules), inspecteur de l'Instruction publique, membre du Comité consultatif d'électricité.

LIPPMANN (Gabriel), membre de l'Institut, professeur à la Sorbonne.

MACÉ DE LÉPINAY, professeur à la Faculté des sciences de Marseille.

MASCART (Éleuthère), membre de l'Institut, directeur du Bureau central météorologique, professeur au Collège de France.

MATHIAS, professeur à la Faculté des sciences de Toulouse.

PELLAT (Henri), professeur à la Faculté des sciences de Paris, directeur du bureau de vérification des alcoomètres au Ministère du commerce et de l'industrie.

POTIER (Alfred), membre de l'Institut, ingénieur en chef au corps des mines, professeur à l'École nationale supérieure des mines.

VIOLLE (Jules), membre de l'Institut, professeur au Conservatoire national des arts et métiers.

We are able to publish the above announcement through the courtesy of Professor Wolcott Gibbs, President of the National Academy of Sciences, to whom it was sent with the following letter:

PARIS, le 17, juillet 1899.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT :

J'ai l'honneur de vous adresser, sous ce pli, la première circulaire relative au congrès international qui se réunira l'année prochaine à Paris, sous les auspices de la Société française de physique.

Ce congrès, qui aura lieu au plus beau moment de l'Exposition universelle, alors que d'autres réunions similaires attireront à Paris des savants du monde entier, offrira aux physiciens des sujets d'intérêt variés, et nous osons espérer qu'ils répondront très nombreux à notre appel.

A cette occasion, nous avons pris la liberté de nous adresser à vous, Monsieur le Président, pour vous prier de vouloir bien porter notre circulaire à la connaissance de votre Académie, et d'attirer sur elle l'attention de vos Collègues.

Nous vous serions très obligés aussi, de nous indiquer la meilleure marche à suivre pour qu'aucun d'eux, parmi ceux qui s'intéressent à la physique, ne soit oublié dans les convocations. Nous pourrions, suivant vos indications, vous envoyer le nombre de circulaires que vous voudrez bien nous fixer, ou faire l'expédition directement aux adresses que vous nous communiquerez.

J'aurai l'honneur de vous adresser les circulaires ultérieures faisant connaître de plus près l'organisation du congrès et les questions qui y seront traitées, et au sujet desquelles votre avis nous serait dès maintenant très précieux.

Dans le cas où votre Académie enverrait des délégués au congrès, je vous serais très obligé de m'en communiquer la liste avant le 15 juillet 1900.

En vous remerciant d'avance pour le concours que vous voudrez bien nous prêter en cette circonstance, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'expression de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Pour le Comité d'organisation,

Le Secrétaire,

CH. ED. GUILLAUME.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT DE L'ACADÉMIE,
NATIONALE, WASHINGTON.

THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF AMERICAN FOOD MATERIALS.

THE Office of Experiment Stations of the United States Department of Agriculture has recently published a Bulletin (No. 28—revised), by W. O. Atwater and A. P. Bryant, entitled 'The Chemical Composition of American Food Materials.' The introductory pages give a brief *résumé* of the history of that portion of chemistry which pertains to the analysis of foods, especially American work of this nature. The different constituents of foods are defined and discussed. The methods of cutting up meats are explained and illustrated by diagrams showing the position of the different cuts in the live and dressed animal. The larger

portion of the Bulletin is devoted to the figures showing the chemical composition of the different articles of food. As a rule only maximum, minimum and average figures are given, but in a few cases the individual analyses are quoted.

The animal foods whose composition is given include the different cuts of beef, veal, mutton and pork; fish, shellfish, etc.; poultry; game, eggs and dairy products; canned meats, soups, etc.; sausages and other manufactured products. The foods of vegetable origin include flour, meal, etc.; bread, crackers and pastry; sugar and starch; fresh and canned vegetables; pickles and condiments; fruits, fresh and preserved; and nuts. Little information has hitherto been available concerning the composition of some of these foods, for instance, nuts.

The literature of the subject has been thoroughly gone over and the present compilation is based upon over four thousand analyses. Many of these were in out-of-the-way publications not readily accessible to students of the subject.

Such a compilation is useful to specialists and also to those interested in nutrition from a more practical standpoint. With the aid of these figures it is possible to compare one food with another as a source of nutrients. The food value of any dietary may be computed if the amount of different foods consumed is determined, and by comparing the dietary with commonly accepted dietary standards its relative value may be seen. Analyses of foods have accumulated very rapidly in recent years, and it is probable that many more will be made in the near future. This Bulletin is designed to serve as a reference book until it shall be superseded by a more extended compilation.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

CHARLES P. DALY died on the 19th of September in his 84th year. He had served forty-two years as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in the city of New York, and twenty-seven years as Chief Justice, his legal decisions being regarded as of the highest authority, many of them establishing precedents in questions of international importance. He had a wide sympathy and knowledge in many subjects of art, literature and science, and a memory and

facility which made him friends all over the world. He had been president of the American Geographical Society for thirty-six years, and honorary member of the Geographical societies of London, Berlin and Russia. He was largely instrumental in accumulating the fine library of the American Geographical Society, and in securing the endowment for its new home near the American Museum of Natural History of which he was also a member. He and Mrs. Daly were members of the Torrey Botanical Club, which they joined expressly in order to aid in the foundation of the New York Botanical Garden. It was largely due to their wide acquaintance with prominent and intellectual men and women that the gardens were incorporated and endowed, and they were among the first and most liberal contributors. As one of the managers of the garden, Judge Daly had an active interest in its work, being always ready with advice and contributions to aid any of its enterprises. His death, following within one week that of Cornelius Vanderbilt, deprives New York of two of its most liberal citizens, and scientific institutions of friends and patrons, whose like is seldom seen.

ADMIRAL WALKER, Professor Burr, of Columbia University, Colonel Haines and Colonel Ernst, of the Isthmian Canal Commission, have been abroad during the summer studying the plans and documents of the Panama Canal, at Paris, and examining the Kiel Ship Canal. They went later to England to visit the Manchester Ship Canal, and expected to sail from Southampton for New York on September 23d. The Commission will leave New York probably about the beginning of November for Colon, and will make a careful study of the Panama, Nicaragua and other routes.

As the daily papers report in great detail, Signor Marconi with several assistants, has arrived in America. He intends to report the yacht races for the newspapers, and afterwards to conduct experiments for the War and Navy Departments.

PROFESSOR A. W. RÜCKER, F.R.S., will deliver an address on the occasion of the distribution of medals at the Royal College of Science, London, on October 5th.