

red from the formation of polytellurids. Its density was obtained by the Dumas method, and by rapid working the decomposition was so slight as to have no appreciable effect upon the result. The value found was 65.1 which corresponds to the formula H_2Te . From this the molecular weight would be 130.2. These properties of hydrogen tellurid correspond to the position of tellurium in the sulfur-selenium group, while the high molecular weight agrees well in confirming the best atomic weight determination of tellurium, which places it above and not below that of iodine.

IN connection with the proposed formation of a new 'Society of Chemical Industry of Victoria,' a correspondent of the *Chemical News* takes exception to the term 'English Society' by the Honorable Secretary of the Victoria Society as applied to the Society of Chemical Industry, in the following language: "Our Society is not, I think, an 'English' Society merely; it is not merely a British Society; it is an Anglo-American Society. Its President of last session was an American, and I believe we are proud of both these facts. * * * It seems strange that Mr. Gepps in his circular should omit our most prosperous and rising section, next to that of London, viz., the New York Section of the Society of Chemical Industry. He probably would not have made the omission, however, had he been present at our annual general meeting this summer, and witnessed the enthusiastic reception accorded to our American President, and have heard his address, and especially his speech at the annual dinner of the Society. If there is one thing we of the Society of Chemical Industry are more proud of than another, it is of the fact that in the Society and its journal the hands of British and American technical chemists are united—spite of the broad Atlantic—in a brotherly grip." To all of which we say Amen.

J. L. H.

JESSE WILLIAM LAZEAR.

At a meeting of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Medical Society on October 16th, Dr. W. S. Thayer, referring to the recent death from yellow fever of Dr. Jesse William Lazear, addressed the Society as follows: Before we pro-

ceed with the program this evening, I should like to say a few words about our dear friend Lazear, whose sad death at Quemados, Cuba, on September 25th, is so fresh in our minds. Lazear was born just outside of Baltimore thirty-four years ago. He graduated at the Academic Department of the Johns Hopkins University in 1889, and three years later obtained the degree of M.D. from Columbia University, New York. After this he was an interne in the Bellevue Hospital for two years. After spending the greater part of the year in studying abroad, particularly in Paris, he returned in 1895 and became one of the medical staff of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. In the summer of 1896, Dr. Lazear was married and began the practice of medicine in Baltimore. At the same time, however, he was an assistant in clinical microscopy in the University, and in the laryngological department in the Hospital dispensary. Last winter he obtained an appointment as assistant surgeon in the army with special laboratory duties, and was stationed in Havana. There he soon became interested in the study of yellow fever, and for several months he had been one of the commission appointed by the Surgeon General, for the study of this disease. He had been constantly exposed to infection, and finally, in the course of his duty, contracted his fatal illness.

Dr. Lazear was a man of few words but keen perception. He was an extremely careful and thorough worker. He kept his own counsel, asked few questions and little help of his associates, but he was a man who, when he started an undertaking, had the ability and enthusiasm to keep quietly at work until he accomplished his end. It was through his excellent work that we were able several years ago to make our first positive *intra vitam* diagnosis of septicæmia due to the diplococcus of Neisser. His valuable studies upon the internal structure of the malarial parasite, which I had the pleasure of bringing before this Society last winter, are remembered by all.

Personally, he was an exceptionally simple, high-minded and lovable man. He could not have failed to find in a short time a public position in which his unusual merits would have become more generally known.

I should like to suggest to the Society the adoption of the following resolutions :

" *Whereas*, On the 26th day of September, our beloved colleague and friend, Jesse William Lazear, lost his life in the discharge of his duty as a member of the United States Yellow Fever Commission ;

" *And whereas*, His exceptional ability in his profession, his simplicity and modesty as a man, had greatly endeared him to all whose good fortune it was to know him ;

" *Be it resolved*, That we, his former colleagues and associates, do hereby express our profound sorrow at the loss to the community of one whose future was unusually rich in promise, to ourselves, of a dear friend and fellow student ;

" *And be it further resolved*, That we express to his wife and family our warmest and most heartfelt sympathy.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE mid-winter meeting of the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at 1 o'clock, P. M., Friday, December 28th, in Room 12, McCoy Hall, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

At the anniversary meeting of the Munich Academy of Sciences on November 14th, Professor W. C. Röntgen was elected an ordinary member ; Professor S. Günther, of Munich, was elected an associate member ; Professors W. Wundt, Leipzig, O. Bütschli, Heidelberg, W. His, Leipzig, and H. de Vries, Amsterdam, were elected corresponding members, and Professor Poincaré, Paris, a foreign member.

DR. KARL KLEIN, professor of mineralogy at Berlin, has been elected a corresponding member of the Paris Academy of Sciences.

THE Cross of Commander of the Legion of Honor has been conferred by the president of the French Republic on Sir William McCormac, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

OXFORD University will confer the degree of D.Sc., *honoris causa*, upon Dr. Oliver J. Lodge, principal of the University of Birmingham.

THE Berlin Academy of Sciences has made the following appropriations : To Herr Engler, toward the publication of 'Das Pflanzenreich,'

2,000 Marks ; to Professor Otto Lehmann, of Karlsruhe, for the continuation of his investigations on fluid crystals, 1,200 Marks ; to Professors Friedrich Paschen and Karl Runge, Hanover, for an electro magnet, 1,400 Marks, and to Dr. Karl Peter, of Breslau, for studies on the development of lizards, 500 Marks.

DR. H. M. SMITH, of the U. S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries, has recently returned from a three month's trip to Europe, during which he visited a number of biological stations, including those at Plymouth and Naples. At the International Congress of Fisheries and Agriculture, held at Paris in September, Dr. Smith was the official delegate of this government.

A BUST of Charles H. Haswell, the first engineer-in-chief of the U. S. Navy, is in process of completion, by Dunbar, for the Union Club of New York. Mr. Haswell is now in his ninety-second year and is still active, going to business every day and looking no older, his friends say, than he did thirty years ago. He was the first officer in the navy to introduce scientific methods in engineering and constructed the engineer corps of that service. After he had organized the corps, he designed much of the then novel machinery of steam propulsion. A few of his steam war vessels still survive, in retirement. He published the first table-book for engineers, and that famous pioneer work is still published by the Harpers, and has passed through about fifty editions in something over a half century. His semi-biographical 'History of New York' is probably better known to the majority of his fellow townsmen.

CAMBRIDGE University will confer its M.A., *honoris causa*, on Mr. G. H. F. Nuttall, M.D., (California), Ph.D. (Göttingen), university lecturer in bacteriology and preventive medicine, and on Mr. T. Strangeways Pigg, university demonstrator of pathology.

DR. H. R. MILL has resigned the librarianship of the Royal Geographical Society, and will be succeeded by Mr. E. Heawood.

WE learn from *Nature* that at the annual meeting of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall, Dr. Le Neve Foster was presented with the William Bolitho gold medal in recog-