

disappointment to the people of New Orleans had the association expressed any strong doubt of the fulfillment of its promise to meet in that city.

Dr. J. H. White, in charge of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service in New Orleans, states that it would be perfectly safe for the association to meet in New Orleans long prior to December 29.

The secretary of the New Orleans board of trade writes that the hospitality of the city will not in the least suffer from the occurrence of yellow fever during the summer, which has not been a strain on the financial resources of the community, since there was only a slight interruption in the free movement of business. He further makes the significant remark, under date of September 19:

The advancement of science has taught our citizens a lesson how to guard against a recurrence of yellow fever and there is to-day less danger from that disease than from typhoid fever which at this time prevails in many eastern cities to an alarming extent.

He further says:

The association could not meet in a city more hospitable, nor in a climate more salubrious and environments more pleasing. \* \* \* The entertainments to be given will not be lacking in that enthusiasm and warmth for which our city is famous all over the United States. \* \* \* The association will find that the outbreak of yellow fever has neither made us too poor, nor too sorrowful, to give a rousing reception to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A letter received September 25, from a prominent state scientific official, residing in Shreveport, who has recently gone to the state of Louisiana and is, therefore, not influenced by local pride, writes to the permanent secretary as a member of the association, expressing the opinion that not the slightest risk will

be incurred by any member of the association and that the meeting could in fact be held in New Orleans at the date of writing (September 25) and the visitors would be in no more danger of contracting yellow fever than they would be in contracting smallpox in Chicago or typhoid fever in Washington or Philadelphia.

On the basis of these opinions and on the strength of his own opinion (and he has for some years been making a special study of the yellow fever mosquito) and by the advice of a majority of the committee on policy, the permanent secretary is now making arrangements for the meeting and will as soon as possible issue the preliminary announcement. The local arrangements have been delayed, but President Craighead, of Tulane University, has now returned to New Orleans and the committees will soon be appointed, so that the necessary details may be completed. An effort is being made to secure a one-fare rate for the round trip and the result of these negotiations as well as other facts will be published as soon as possible.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE exercises in connection with the installation of Dr. Edmund J. James, as president of the University of Illinois, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week, took place in accordance with the program already printed here, in the presence of a large assemblage of delegates from foreign and American universities. We hope to print in a subsequent issue the inaugural address of President James. Among the honorary degrees conferred were the following: Doctor of laws, Professor Thomas F. Holgate, acting-president of Northwestern University, and John B. Murphy, M.D., Chicago; doctor of science, Professor T. C. Chamberlin, of the University of Chicago; doctor of engineering, Octave Chanute, Chicago, and F. E. Turneaure, University of Wisconsin; doctor of

agriculture, Norman J. Colman, former secretary of agriculture, and Alvin H. Sanders, Chicago.

A SCIENTIFIC session of the National Academy of Sciences will be held at the Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University, New Haven, beginning Tuesday, November 14, 1905, at 11 A.M. A special stated session of the academy will be held on Wednesday, November 15, to consider any business that may come before the academy.

ACCORDING to a despatch from Lindenburg, Prussia, where Emperor William went last week to attend the dedication of the Royal Prussian Aeronautical Observatory, the German ruler has conferred upon Mr. A. Lawrence Rotch, director of the Blue Hill Observatory the Order of the Red Eagle of the third class. The emperor at the same time presented the Prince of Monaco the great gold medal bestowed once a year for work in science.

DR. ADOLF VON BAEYER, professor of chemistry at Munich, has been elected a foreign member of the Berlin Academy of Sciences. Dr. Baeyer will celebrate his seventieth birthday on October 31.

DR. HUBERT LYMAN CLARK, professor of biology at Olivet College, Michigan, who has recently been working with Dr. Alexander Agassiz in the study of sea urchins, will join the staff of the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology.

MR. PERCY W. FLINT, of Charleston, S. C., has been appointed assistant chemist of the Pennsylvania Experiment Station in place of Mr. Arthur W. Clark, resigned.

THE international Italian 'King Humbert Prize' of 2,500 francs for the most important contribution to orthopedic surgery has been assigned to Dr. Oscar Vulpius, of Heidelberg.

THE Alvarenga prize for 1905 has been awarded to Dr. Chalmers Watson, of Edinburgh, Scotland, for his essay, entitled 'The Importance of Diet; an Experimental Study from a New Standpoint.' This prize is given by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, and consists, each year, of the income of the bequest of the late Señor Alvarenga, amount-

ing to about \$180. The next award will be made July 14, 1906, provided that an essay deemed by the committee of award to be worthy of the prize shall have been offered. Essays intended for competition may be on any subject in medicine, but can not have been published. They must be typewritten, and must be received by the secretary of the college on or before May 1, 1906.

SIR CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM, F.R.S., gave an address at Cambridge on October 19, introductory to the courses of instruction in geography.

THE sixth annual Huxley memorial lecture of the Anthropological Institute, London, will be delivered on October 31, by Dr. John Beddoe, F.R.S., the subject being 'Color and Race.'

THE three-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Sir Thomas Browne was celebrated by Yale University on October 19 with a commemorative address by Dr. Francis Bacon, under the auspices of the Modern Language Club.

DR. WALTER F. WISLICENUS, editor-in-chief of the *Astronomischer Jahresbericht*, died on October 3 after a very brief illness. He was born November 5, 1859; was a member of the German transit of Venus expedition in 1882; assistant in the observatory of the University of Strassburg, 1883-89; instructor in the university since 1887, and professor since 1894. Since 1899, he has edited six volumes of the *Astronomischer Jahresbericht*, aggregating 3,764 octavo pages, embracing reviews of 13,874 separate books or articles.

*Nature* announces the deaths of the Rev. S. J. Johnson, the author of contributions to astronomy, and of Sir Edward H. Carbutt, a mechanical engineer.

THE Boston *Transcript* estimates that the William M. Rice Institute for the Advancement of Literature, Science and Art, of Houston, Tex., organized to take under his will the residuary estate of William M. Rice, will receive from Rice's property in New York state \$2,177,361.92. Since the murder of Mr. Rice his estate has been in litigation both in

New York and in Texas, a dispute over the probate of one will having been brought into court on the charge that the signature to it was a forgery. A controversy also arose on a claim against the estate for \$2,000,000 by the executors of the estate of the wife, Elizabeth B. Rice. This was settled by the payment of \$200,000. Nearly a million dollars have been paid in lawyers' fees and expenses incidental to the administration of the estate.

THE department of anthropology, of the American Museum of Natural History, has received as a gift from Mr. T. Van Hynning, of the State Historical Department of Des Moines, Iowa, a series of grooved axes, celts and stone disks.

MR. L. H. FARLOW has recently presented the Peabody Museum with a large and rare collection of relics of Indian manufacture, collected on the northern Pacific coast—from Alaska to northern California.

*Nature* states that the Municipal Museum, at Hull, has recently acquired a valuable addition to its collection of local Roman and other remains. The specimens are principally of Roman date, and include more than 2,000 coins, nearly 100 fibulæ of a great variety of patterns, several dozen buckets, pins, dress fasteners, ornaments, strap ends, bosses, spindle whorls, armlets, spoons, beads and other objects. Among the fibulæ are two of exceptional interest, as they bear the maker's name upon them (Aveissa). There is also an extensive collection of pottery, including many vases, strainers, dishes, etc., in grey ware, as well as many fine pieces of Samian ware, several of which contain the potters' marks.

WE learn from the *Boston Transcript* that the annual meeting of the Teachers' School of Science was held at the Twentieth Century Club, Boston, on October 20. Addresses were made by Henry L. Clapp, of the Putnam School; Arthur C. Boyden, of the Bridge-water Normal School; Mrs. Caroline F. Cutler, of the Wyman School, Jamaica Plain; and Miss Annette M. Blount, of the Wellesley Schools. The following officers were elected: President, Professor George H. Barton; first vice-president, Professor A. Lawrence Lowell;

second vice-president, Miss Mary C. Mellyn; third vice-president, Miss Mary F. Thompson; auditor, Mr. Seth Sears; secretary and treasurer, Miss Cora S. Cobb.

MEDICAL journals report that the second International Sanitary Conference of American Republics was held in Washington, D. C., beginning on October 10. Delegates from twelve South American republics, from the army and navy and from the United States Health and Marine Hospital Service were in attendance. Surgeon General Walter Wyman presided. The address of welcome on behalf of the government was made by Mr. Root, the secretary of state. Mr. Taylor, assistant secretary of the treasury, also welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service. The response was made by Mr. Quesada, the Cuban minister.

It is reported that Dr. Max Reithoffer, professor at the Vienna Technical High School, has, jointly with the court watchmaker, Karl Morawetz, submitted to the common council of Vienna a plan for an electric system of clocks run by wireless electricity. They propose to furnish the chronometric and electric apparatuses, including clocks, to the city free of charge, and to make the trials. The city has only to furnish the current, the cable connections, etc., and give the use of suitable buildings. The common council has appropriated \$600 for making experiments.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has offered \$100,000 to Union College, for an engineering building, on condition that the institution raise a like amount for this purpose. Mr. Carnegie has also offered to give Smith College one half of \$125,000 required for a biological laboratory.

BUILDING A, the first of the initial group of seven structures that form the new Carnegie Technical Schools, in Pittsburg, Pa., has been opened with a class of 120 students, selected from more than six hundred applicants. The classes will be increased from time to time as the buildings are opened. The schools for apprentices and journeymen are to be opened next month, and the other mechanical depart-