

gates went to Oxford and many others to Cambridge. At each place the hospitality was profuse and honorary degrees were conferred on several geologists from the continent.

Unlike geological congresses, this meeting was not one for the reading of formal papers. As the president said to one of the visitors, the object was to have geologists see and know each other. In this respect the meeting was eminently successful. The commodious rooms of the Society in Burlington House, open for two weeks prior to the celebration, afforded every opportunity for men to become acquainted and full advantage was taken of the opportunity. The effect for good will last for a generation. It would be well if some one with genius for organization would take the method for a pattern and remodel the congresses so as to reduce reading of papers to the minimum and to increase the opportunity for personal contact, punishing by fine those who may neglect to utilize the opportunity.

Where all labored to make the celebration a success, it would be invidious to select any for particular mention; one may only congratulate the committee of arrangements upon the smoothness with which everything moved. Geological John Bull's idea of hospitality embraces much of genial common sense. It may be, as reported, that the Briton is slow in starting, but certainly, once started, his momentum is tremendous, carrying both willing and unwilling alike on a high wave of good cheer.

JOHN J. STEVENSON

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR MAJOR RONALD ROSS, who left Liverpool on October 22 for Mauritius for the purpose of research in tropical medicine, and Mr. W. M. Haffkine were entertained at dinner on October 21 by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Sir Alfred Jones presided, and presented Mr. Haffkine with the Mary Kingsley medal of the school.

THE council of the Royal Meteorological Society, at their meeting on October 16, awarded the Symons gold medal for 1908 to M. L. Teisserenc de Bort, of Paris, in recognition of the services which he has rendered

to the science of meteorology. The medal was established in memory of the late George James Symons, the founder of the British Rainfall Organization, and is awarded biennially.

THE College of Physicians of Philadelphia announces that the Alvarenga prize for 1907 has been awarded to Dr. William Louis Chapman, Providence, R. I., for his essay, entitled "Postoperative phlebitis, thrombosis and embolism." The next award of the prize, amounting to about \$180, will be made on July 14, 1908. Particulars may be obtained from Dr. Thomas R. Neilson, secretary of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

THE honorary degree of Ph.D. has been conferred on Professor Ernest Rutherford, of Manchester University, by the University of Giessen.

THE Yale corporation has conferred the honorary degree of master of arts on Professor E. W. Brown and on Professor Ross G. Harrison, who have this year become members of the faculty of the university.

SIR PATRICK MANSON, medical adviser of the British Colonial Office, has been chosen president of the International Society of Tropical Medicine, organized during the recent International Congress of Hygiene.

PROFESSOR BAELEZ, of Stuttgart, and Professor Noecht, of Hamburg, have been elected presidents of the recently established German Society of Tropical Medicine.

DR. FRANK H. LOUD, professor of astronomy and mathematics in Colorado College since 1877, has retired with an allowance from the Carnegie Foundation.

By the trustees of Clemson College the office of state entomologist has been separated from the chair of zoology and entomology of the college and located at Columbia, S. C. On September 11, 1907, Professor Chas. E. Chambliss resigned his position of associate professor of zoology and entomology to accept the appointment of state entomologist.

DR. HEINRICH HASSELBRING, assistant in botany in the University of Chicago, has been appointed assistant botanist at the Cuban

Agricultural Experiment Station, at Santiago de las Vegas.

MR. A. K. CHITTENDEN has been appointed assistant in the United States Forest Service to investigate the White Mountain and Appalachian Mountain forests with a view toward the proposed national park. Mr. Karl Woodward has charge, for the U. S. Forest Service, of a study of forest conditions in Montana, in cooperation with the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. Mr. Chittenden and Mr. Woodward are graduates of the Yale Forest School and are sons of distinguished American men of science.

DR. J. ASHBURTON THOMPSON, M.D., permanent head of the department of public health of the government of New South Wales, has arrived in London.

At a meeting of the Physico-chemical Club of Boston and Cambridge, held on Wednesday evening, October 30, Professor T. W. Richards spoke on "Chemical Research and Instruction in Berlin," and Dr. H. T. Kalmus presented a paper on "Some Properties of Fused Salts." Professor Richards was elected president, Dr. A. A. Noyes vice-president, Professor Sherrill secretary and Mr. Frevert treasurer.

*Nature* states that on October 12 the Clifton (Bristol) Scientific Club celebrated its twenty-first anniversary by entertaining Sir William Ramsay and other past members, when Sir William, who was one of the founders of the club, delivered an address on the recent history of chemical science and on the nature of matter. On the previous evening he visited Clifton College, where he gave an account of the experiments by which argon and other gases of the atmosphere were discovered.

MR. HERMAN DEC. STEARNS, associate professor of physics in Stanford University, died of tuberculosis on October 21. Professor Stearns has been absent from the university on sick leave for the past three years.

THE death is announced of Dr. A. Fürtwangler, professor of classical archeology at Munich.

M. N. VASCHIDE, assistant director of the Laboratory of Pathological Psychology of the University of Paris, died on October 13, at the age of about thirty-three years.

THE Civil Service Commission announces an examination on December 4 to fill such vacancies as may occur in the positions of laboratory assistant qualified as textile and paper analyst and laboratory assistant in polariscopic work in the Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce and Labor, at \$1,000 and \$1,200 per annum.

UNDER the will of the late Dr. Nathaniel Rogers, the senate of the University of London offers a prize of £100 for the best original investigations made on any medical pathological subject during the preceding two years. Candidates will be permitted to present papers published during the preceding year.

FOREIGN journals announce that a large meeting was held at Rangoon on September 19 to consider the establishment of a Pasteur Institute in Burma. It was resolved that the institute should be established at Maymyo. A committee was formed with powers to undertake measures preliminary to the formation of the institute. The subscriptions already amount to 80,000 rupees, which secures the success of the movement. Other subscriptions have been promised, which will be sufficient to enable the institute to start on a wide basis.

A TELEGRAM has been received at the Harvard College Observatory from Professor W. W. Campbell, director of the Lick Observatory, stating that prominent bright knots have been visible during the past week in Saturn's rings, two east, two west, symmetrically placed.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE report of the treasurer of Yale University states that gifts and legacies to funds during the fiscal year have been \$527,545, as compared with \$629,705 the year before, corresponding figures for gifts to income being \$112,238 and \$250,602. The gifts, most of which have been already announced, include the Yale alumni fund, \$52,692; the Belden