

years of study and experiment enabled him to produce a type having great superiority in the matter of stability, efficiency and structural strength. This was the famous Chanute biplane glider which substantially forms the conspicuous body feature of the present-day biplane flying machines.

For many years Mr. Chanute was in regular communication, personally and by correspondence, with the leading aeronautic investigators in both hemispheres. The help which he gave to such men can never be fully known; the counsel and encouragement which he gave the Wright brothers in particular have been gratefully and gracefully acknowledged by them. His valuable experience, information and advice were liberally and gladly furnished to them at the time when it was most needed, when they were at the foot of the unblazed trail, and these gave them the courage and confidence which were essential to enable them to persevere and to emerge at last at the summit, triumphant.

At the Boston meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in December, 1909, Mr. Chanute read a paper entitled "The Present Status of Aerial Navigation." This paper was the expression of his maturest understanding of the science to which he had devoted so many years of his life.

Mr. Chanute died in Chicago on the twenty-third of November last. Three daughters and one son survive him. Those who knew him will always remember his lovable character and will think of the oft-repeated saying, "He was more willing to give credit to others than to claim any for himself."

We may well believe that whenever in the future the history of aviation shall be reviewed, the name Chanute will stand forth as that of one of the few great founders.

JAMES MEANS

BOSTON, MASS.

THE AFRICAN ENTOMOLOGICAL
RESEARCH COMMITTEE

WITH a view to furthering the work of the African Entomological Research Committee,

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has placed at its disposal a sum of £1,000 a year for three years to defray the cost of sending a few suitably qualified young men to the United States to study the practical applications of entomology. Three of these Carnegie scholars, as they are to be called, have been selected, and two of them are already at work. Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology, is interesting himself in the matter and all possible facilities will be given to the scholars. It may be expected that the scheme will be of value to British administration in Africa and elsewhere by providing a body of well-trained entomologists available for employment in the services of the different colonial governments.

The Research Committee was appointed in June, 1909, by Lord Crewe, the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the object of promoting the study of the insects which play so prominent a part in the spread of disease among men, animals and plants in Africa, and Lord Cromer is its president. It includes some of the most eminent authorities on entomology and tropical medicine in Great Britain.

During the short period of the committee's existence satisfactory progress has been made. The scheme has been energetically taken up by the African colonies and protectorates, and the large quantity of material already received at the committee's office in the Natural History Museum at South Kensington has very materially increased our knowledge of the insect pests of Africa. The collections of insects, after being properly identified and recorded, are being distributed to the schools of tropical medicine, universities, museums, or other institutions where they are likely to be of value for the purpose of teaching or scientific study. Two skilled entomologists are being employed under the direction of the committee in East and West Africa respectively, for the purpose of interesting and instructing the local officials in the work, and also of carrying out special investigations.

The committee has issued quarterly a scientific journal, entitled the *Bulletin of Entomological Research*, of which the first volume is

just completed. Further particulars may be obtained from the secretary of the committee, Mr. Guy Marshall, British Museum (Natural History), South Kensington, London.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

As a result of the recent tentative agreement between Columbia University and the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, the appointments of Dr. Theodore C. Janeway as attending physician and of Dr. William G. MacCallum as pathologist to the hospital have been announced. Dr. Janeway is professor of the practise of medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons and Dr. MacCallum is professor of pathology. They succeed Dr. W. Gilman Thompson and Dr. Eugene L. Opie, respectively, at the hospital.

At the last meeting of the Rumford Committee of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences the following appropriations were made: To Professor D. F. Comstock, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, \$100 in aid of his research on the possible effect of the motion of the source on the velocity of light. To Professor G. N. Lewis, of the same institution, \$150 in aid of his research on the free energy changes in chemical reactions. To Professor R. W. Wood, of the Johns Hopkins University, \$150 in furtherance of his researches on the optical properties of vapors.

THE following fifteen candidates have been nominated by the council of the Royal Society for election to membership: Professor H. T. Barnes, Professor A. J. Brown, Professor J. B. Cohen, Professor W. E. Dixon, Professor F. G. Donnan, Major E. H. Hills, Dr. W. H. Lang, Professor J. B. Leathes, Professor E. A. Minchin, Professor R. Muir, Mr. R. D. Oldham, Mr. R. I. Pocock, Professor A. W. Porter, Mr. H. W. Richmond and Mr. G. G. Stoney.

M. EUGÈNE TISSERAND has been elected a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences in succession to the late Professor Tannery.

THE *British Medical Journal* notes various honors conferred on Dr. Paul Ehrlich, director of the Institute for Experimental Therapeutics at Frankfort. The Emperor of Rus-

sia has conferred upon him the Order of St. Anne First Class, with a badge set in diamonds. The King of Spain has bestowed on him the Grand Cross of the Order of Alfonso XII. The German Emperor has nominated him a member of the senate of the recently founded Kaiser Wilhelm Society for the Advancement of Science; on this body he is the only representative of medicine. The St. Petersburg Institute of Experimental Therapeutics has elected him an honorary member. The municipal authorities of Buenos Aires have given Professor Ehrlich's name to a street in the suburb of San Fernando.

A PORTRAIT of Sir William Crookes by Mr. E. A. Walton, as we learn from *Nature*, was presented to the Royal Society before the ordinary meeting on February 16. The presentation was made on behalf of the subscribers by Professor Meldola representing about 130 fellows of the society who had contributed to the fund. Sir Archibald Geikie, as president, accepted the portrait on behalf of the society. Sir William Crookes expressed his thanks to the subscribers for the honor they had conferred upon him. In the course of his remarks he said that in two years he hoped to celebrate the jubilee of his fellowship, as his election dated from 1863.

PROFESSOR W. W. WATTS, F.R.S., has been elected president of the Geological Society of London. The following awards of medals and funds have been made: Wollaston medal, Professor Waldemar C. Brögger; Murchison medal, Mr. R. H. Tiddeman; Lyell medals, Dr. F. A. Bather and Dr. A. W. Rowe; Bigsby medal, Professor O. Abel; Wollaston fund, Professor O. T. Jones; Murchison fund, Mr. E. S. Cobbold; Lyell fund, Dr. C. G. Cullis; Barlow-Jameson fund, Mr. J. F. N. Green.

WE learn from *Nature* that the Lannelongue prize, founded last year by Professor Lannelongue, of Paris, has been presented to Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S. The prize is a gold medal and the sum of \$1,000, and it is awarded to the person who had contributed most to the progress of surgery in the ten years before the date of the award. It is open to surgeons of all nations, and is to be