

time, without tempting them to take more subjects in a given year than they can creditably pursue.

WILLIAM T. FOSTER

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

By the untimely death of Wilbur Wright the country loses an inventor of distinction, whose great achievement in the development of the aeroplane gives him high rank among those who have contributed to the practical applications of science.

DR. WILLIAM McMICHAEL WOODWORTH, of the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology and the author of important contributions to zoology, has died at the age of forty-eight years.

VICE-PRESIDENT THOMAS JONATHAN BURRILL and Comptroller Samuel Walker Shattuck, of the University of Illinois, will retire from active service at the end of the present academic year, having been granted special retiring allowances by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Both of them have been with the university since its foundation in 1868, and have been potent factors in its upbuilding. Dr. Burrill has served as professor, dean, vice-president and acting president and has done notable research work in botany and bacteriology. Professor Shattuck has served as professor of mathematics, vice-president and comptroller.

DR. HENRY T. EDDY, head of the department of mathematics and mechanics at the University of Minnesota and dean of the graduate school, will retire from active service under the terms of the Carnegie Foundation.

PROFESSOR THEODORE W. RICHARDS, of the department of chemistry of Harvard University, lectured at the University of Michigan upon "Atomic Compressibility" on May 16. On May 17 he was awarded the Willard Gibbs medal by the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society, and delivered an address upon "Atomic Weights."

THE death of Lord Lister having created a vacancy in the membership of the Royal Society of Science, Upsala, Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S., has been elected his successor.

THE Société Astronomique de France has, says *The Observatory*, lately taken advantage of two anniversaries to pay honor to the founder and past-president of the society. January 28 last was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the society, and this year is the fiftieth of M. Flammarion's career as an astronomical writer, for his first great work, "La Pluralité des Mondes habités," was published in 1862. The actual ceremony took place in the large hall of the Sociétés Savants on the evening of February 26, which happened to be M. Flammarion's seventieth birthday, so that three anniversaries were celebrated.

As a memorial of Professor Ralph S. Tarr a volume is to be published consisting of essays on physiographic and geographic subjects, the work of men trained by him. A committee has been named to take charge of the preparation and publication of the volume. This committee has asked Dr. Frank Carney, professor of geology in Denison University, to edit the work.

THE completion by Rudolf von Jaksch of twenty-five years as professor of internal medicine at Prague was celebrated recently. The *Prager med. Wochenschrift* issued a special number in his honor and a *Festschrift* was presented to him.

COLONEL SIR DAVID BRUCE, C.B., F.R.S., has been promoted to the rank of surgeon general in the British Army, in consideration of his eminent services to the cause of science. Sir David Bruce is at present at the head of the Sleeping Sickness Commission appointed by the government, with the advice of the Royal Society, to continue the study of the disease in Nyasaland.

A GRANT of \$140 from the C. M. Warren Fund of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences has been made to Professor Arthur B. Lamb for work upon the rhodiumamines.

HARRY MILES JOHNSON, Ph.D. (Hopkins '12), has been appointed psychological assistant in the physical laboratory of the National Electric Lamp Association, Cleveland, Ohio.

THE American Road Builders' Association gave a dinner at the Hotel Astor, New York

City, on June 5, in honor of W. Rees Jeffreys, Esq., secretary of the road board of England and honorary general secretary of the local organizing committee of the third International Road Congress to be held in London in June, 1913.

PROFESSOR THOMAS A. JAGGAR, JR., professor of geology in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been granted leave of absence for five years, and sails for Honolulu early this month to take charge of the Volcano Laboratory of the institute on the crater of Kilauea. Drs. A. L. Day and E. S. Shepherd, of the Carnegie Institution, are now in Hawaii and expect to spend the summer in investigations of optical pyrometry and spectroscopic analysis.

PROFESSOR ELLSWORTH HUNTINGTON, of Yale University, will this year carry further the work of investigating climatic changes during the last two or three thousand years which he undertook last summer under the auspices of the Carnegie Institute of Washington. Accompanied by Professor H. S. Canby, he has left for California, where he will be joined by a party of four or five students and others from the University of California. They will proceed into the Sierra Nevada Mountains in the King's River section south of Yosemite, where they will spend two months measuring trees.

PROFESSOR ALFRED DODGE COLE, head of the department of physics at Ohio State University, has been granted leave of absence for the college year 1912-13. It is probable that he will spend four months in research at the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, and a semester similarly at the University of Berlin.

DR. ALBERT BUSHNELL HART, professor of the science of government at Harvard University, is at present lecturing at Colorado College in Colorado Springs as exchange professor. He is giving lectures on American history (1850-1865), on American biography, and on the Orient (Japan, China, Philippines, India).

THE Harrington lectures arranged by the medical faculty of the University of Buffalo

will be delivered in Alumni Hall by Dr. Ludwig Hektoen, of Chicago, on May 28 to 31, on "Immunity."

PROFESSOR C. A. ADAMS, of Harvard University, gave a lecture "On the Place of the Engineer in Modern Society," at the University of Vermont on the evening of May 15, and a lecture on "The Synchronous Motor," on the morning of May 16.

THE Illinois State Association of Operating Engineers met at the University of Illinois on May 24. Addresses were given by President James, Dean W. F. Goss, of the College of Engineering, Professor Parr and Professor Bartow, of the department of chemistry.

A CONFERENCE will be held at the Graduate School of Agriculture, Lansing, Mich., on July 24, to discuss the formulation of standard rations for experimental work in determining the comparative value of feed stuffs. Mr. B. H. Rawl, chief of the dairy division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, President H. J. Waters, of the Kansas Agricultural College, Professor C. H. Eckles, of the Missouri Experiment Station, and other leading workers in this field are expected to be present and lead the discussion.

ALL persons interested in the scientific section of the American Pharmaceutical Association are requested to notify any of the officers of the section of the title or titles of the paper or papers that they contemplate presenting before the section at the annual meeting of the Association at Denver, Colorado, August 19-24 inclusive, 1912. Original papers of scientific interest, whether directly of pharmaceutical interest or not will be considered by the committee. The committee on scientific papers consists of W. O. Richtmann, *chairman*; F. P. Stroup, *secretary*, 145 North 10th St., Philadelphia, Pa.; F. R. Eldred, associate, 3323 Kenwood Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.

THE second annual meeting of the American Climatological Association will be held in Hartford, Conn., June 10-12, under the presidency of Dr. A. D. Blackader, Montreal.

THE conference of bath officials and others interested in public baths, held at New York City, on May 14 and 15, resulted in the or-

ganization of the American Association for Promoting Hygiene and Public Baths. Dr. Simon Branch, professor in the medical department of Columbia University, who has for nearly twenty years led the movement for free public baths, was elected president, and Dr. William H. Hale, permanent secretary. The annual meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of May, the next meeting being at Baltimore, May 13, 1913. The membership fee is one dollar a year and all persons of good character are eligible for membership.

A CABLEGRAM received at the Harvard College Observatory from Kiel states that a spectrogram of Enebos Nova obtained by Kuestner at Bonn shows "dark lines uranium radium emanation."

WE learn from the London *Times* that Messrs. Sotheby sold, on May 17, the scientific books of the late Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker, among which were several presentation copies, whilst many were with valuable MS. notes by the late owner. A set of Hooker's *Icones Plantarum*, 1837-1911, 30 volumes—£67 (Wesley); Edwards's *Botanical Register*, 1815-47, 33 volumes—£26 (Muller); and a collection of books on the "Flora" of the Antarctic regions, New Zealand, etc., in nine volumes—£123 (Wesley). The late Dr. Joseph F. Payne's property included a slightly defective copy of Apuleius Platonius, "Herbarium," Rome, 1488, the earliest printed book with figures of plants—£55 (Leighton); J. Milton, "Areopagitica," 1644, the very rare first edition, one page slightly cut into—£21 (Barnard); and Joannem de Cuba, "Tractatus de Herbis," etc., 1491, with numerous woodcuts of plants and animals, slightly defective—£35 (Quaritch). The two days' sale of books realized £1,488 14s.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association the births for 1910 were 35,119 and for 1911, 69,098 below the average for the decade 1901 to 1910, while the number of marriages in the first year was 10,154 and in the latter 20,897 above the average in that period. It is therefore evident that the fertility of married women has shown a considerable decrease. For each 1,000 of the pop-

ulation there occurred in 1911 30.2 births as compared with 31.5 in 1910, 32.7 in 1909, 33.7 in 1908 and 37.4 in 1901, so that in ten years the birth rate has dropped by 7.2 per thousand. The number of deaths in 1911 was 18.1 per thousand, as contrasted with 16.9, 17.9, 18.9 and 21.7 in the four preceding years. According to these figures, the excess of births for 1911 was 12.1, as compared with 14.6 in 1910, 14.8 in 1909 and 1908 and 15.7 in 1901.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

NEARLY \$1,000,000 was appropriated by the General Education Board at its meeting on May 24. \$250,000 is given to the George Peabody College for Teachers at Nashville, Tenn., for the establishment of the Seaman A. Knapp School of Country Life. The other colleges awarded conditional appropriations are: Beloit College, Beloit, Wis., \$100,000; Coe College, Cedar Rapids, La., \$100,000; McAlester College, St. Paul, Minn., \$50,000; University of Rochester, Rochester, N. Y., \$200,000. The sum of \$210,000 was set aside for demonstration work in agriculture in the southern states, for professors of secondary education in state universities of the south, and to aid the work of Negro education in the south.

PROFESSOR OTIS F. RANDALL, who holds the chair of mechanics and mechanical drawing at Brown University, has been appointed dean of the university to succeed Professor Alexander Meiklejohn, who is to become president of Amherst College.

DR. GEORGE DOCK has resigned the deanship of the medical department of Washington University, St. Louis. Dr. Dock will continue as professor of medicine.

DR. DAVID RIESMAN and Dr. Joseph Sailer have been elected professors of clinical medicine in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, in succession to the late Dr. John H. Musser. Dr. Richard M. Pearce occupies the John Herr Musser professorship of medical research.

VICTOR C. MYERS, Ph.D. (Yale, '09), has been appointed professor of pathological chemistry, and has taken charge of the new labora-